Municipal Power News

IMPA

Town of Straughn

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Inside this Issue

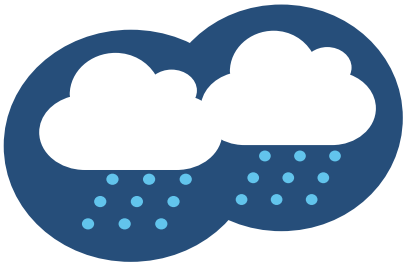
AMI Helps Local Utility

Last year, Straughn town leaders worked with the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), the town's not-for-profit, wholesale power provider, to implement state-of-the-art metering technology throughout the community. The technology, otherwise known as Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI), is an integrated system of metering technologies that enables two-way communication between utilities and customer's meters. AMI also offers software that shows a meter and outage map, so that the utility can monitor the system, pinpoint the location of power outages and other electric issues, and access customer usage data.

Full implementation of the technology has run smoothly with over 100 meters in Straughn upgraded with AMI. Now, Straughn's utility benefits from the numerous functions provided by the system. For example, since the advanced meters can both send and receive information, Straughn's utility staff can now read electric meters remotely, which provides labor savings and more accurate billing and customer data. AMI is also capable of monitoring the electric distribution system and will immediately send notifications to the utility if issues like a power outage occur. With the map view of customers that AMI supplies, utility personnel can see the precise locations

-continued on page 4

IMPA Responds to Winter Storm Elliott



From December 22 to the 26 of 2022, Winter Storm Elliott swept across North America, causing record low temperatures and severe winter conditions throughout the United States. Snowfall, ice, and blizzard-like conditions blew through much of the Midwest while hazardous road conditions kept many of us hunkered down inside through the holidays. During these days of sub-zero temperatures, approximately 1.5 million utility customers throughout the country lost power (according to www.poweroutage.us).

Fortunately, Indiana utility customers were only a small portion of those without power, and the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) worked diligently with neighboring utilities and the state's Regional Transmission Organizations to ensure the reliability of the power grid. IMPA's seven combustion turbines—totaling 249 megawatts (MW) of capacity in Anderson, Indiana, and Richmond, Indiana—were staffed and operational through the winter storm. The Anderson and Richmond units are run by IMPA employees who worked day and night through December's winter storm to ensure power was delivered to utility customers. These units, which primarily run on natural gas and are built to operate in temperatures down to -20 degrees Fahrenheit, are a vital dispatchable resource in extreme weather events due to their capability to utilize ultra-low sulfur No. 2 fuel oil as a backup. The backup fuel allowed the units to run and provide power during the whole severe winter weather event.

Other staff members who were out in the field during the cold weather event included IMPA Service Corp's linemen and operations employees who responded to outages in member communities. During Winter Storm Elliott, IMPA Service Corp's crews responded to eight IMPA member communities to assist with power restoration to keep utility customers warm in their homes.

IMPA is grateful to the dedicated staff members who braved the historic winter conditions to ensure the rest of us could remain safe and warm at home. The Agency's reliability, whether during a typical day or an extreme period of uncertainty, is its upmost priority. Now, as we head toward the warmer weather of spring, IMPA looks forward to continuing its legacy of reliable operations and excellent electric service for all member communities.•

How Does Reliable Electricity Reach Me?

Your power is unique as it is distributed not by a for-profit electric utility, but rather by your municipally-owned, locally controlled electric utility. Your municipal electric utility—also known as a "public power" utility—receives its power from the Indiana Municipal Power Agency, a not-for-profit organization created by 61 public power utilities in the Midwest. This is where your electricity begins!

STEP 1

IMPA is the wholesale power provider to your community, meaning that it produces or purchases electricity (depending on what is most economically advantageous) and transmits that energy to your local utility. IMPA's power supply portfolio is made up of coal, natural gas, solar, wind, and nuclear energy. By providing its member communities with power from multiple sources, IMPA can maintain stable costs.

STEP 2

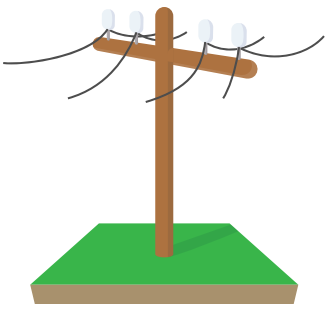
Once the power is generated, no matter from which type of resource, a set of equipment located within a substation is used to "step up" the electricity's voltage. A higher voltage means that the electricity can travel longer distances over high-voltage transmission lines with lower energy losses.

STEP 3

Once "stepped-up," the electricity is sent along transmission lines, allowing it to reach IMPA's member communities. IMPA jointly owns a portion of the state's transmission system, which covers about 2/3 of Indiana.

STEP 4

Once the electricity reaches a community like yours, it is "stepped down" by a local substation, bringing the power to a lower voltage that will allow it to travel on your local community's distribution power lines.



STEP 5

The power then travels along local distribution lines owned by your public power utility to reach homes and businesses in the community.

Tidbits & Trivia

The **Indiana Municipal Power Agency** (IMPA) is a not-for-profit organization that provides a low-cost, reliable, and environmentally-responsible power supply to its members. IMPA provides this wholesale power to 61 communities in Indiana and Ohio, who collectively make up the Agency's membership.

Question: What is one benefit of driving an electric vehicle rather than a gas-powered car?

Send your answer to newsletter@impa.com, along with your name, e-mail address, and address for a chance to win an energy efficiency prize pack!

Reader Survey

Is there more about your community that you would like to know? Do you have questions about how public power or your municipally-owned utility works? Would you like to learn more tips and tricks as to how you can improve your home's energy efficiency?

Reach out to newsletter@impa.com to suggest topics for future *Municipal Power News* newsletters and let us know what articles you enjoy most, and what you'd like to see next!

Local Utility

-continued from page 1

of any issues and send out workers to the exact location of the problem, rather than having to estimate problem areas. In these ways and more, AMI helps Straughn's utility work more efficiently, saving time and money.

IMPA launched its AMI program in 2019 through its operations and engineering subsidiary, IMPA Service Corp. Since then, 14 of the Agency's 61 member communities have signed up for the program to reap the benefits of AMI. Some of the participants include other Henry County communities, such as Knightstown and Lewisville. As with many IMPA Service Corp programs, Straughn and the 13 other participating IMPA member communities cost-share much of the software, server hosting, startup training, metering and outage maps, system monitoring, and utility usage data that is required for AMI

implementation.

Many of these communities, including Straughn, are also members of IMPA Service Corp's Dedicated Services program. This program provides the town with routine electric distribution services, including vegetation management, power line and infrastructure maintenance, and outage restoration. With AMI implemented, the lineworkers with Dedicated Services are able to more accurately monitor Straughn's electric system and react quickly when power quality issues are found.

"We're glad to have Straughn join with us on the AMI project," said IMPA President and CEO Jack Alvey. "This program helps our members incorporate the most modern technology and software available to improve customer service and reduce meter reading and utility billing costs."•

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What's the Word?

Gas Turbine Plant

noun

A facility which uses natural gas or other liquid fuels to power a combustion turbine and generate electricity. The first true gas turbine was patented in 1791!

IMPA owns seven combustion turbines and associated facilities totaling 419 MW in the aggregate. These include three units in Anderson, IN, two near Richmond, IN, and two in Indianapolis, IN. IMPA employees operate and maintain the combustion turbines located in Anderson and Richmond, while the plant in Indianapolis is operated and maintained under a contract with a separate utility that has two other units at the same facility.

Cooking Corner

For a chance to be featured in the newsletter and win a prize, send your recipe to:

MPN Recipes
11610 N. College Ave.
Carmel, IN 46032
or
newsletter@impa.com

Broccoli Casserole

Recipe submitted by Kimberly of Paoli, Indiana

- 2 lbs broccoli, frozen or cooked
- 1/2 lb velveeta, cubed
- 1 roll ritz crackers, crumbled
- 1 stick butter divided in half

Cook broccoli according to package directions. Add velveeta and 1/2 stick butter. Cook until melted. Butter a 2 qt casserole dish. Pour broccoli into casserole dish. Pour crumbled crackers on top. Melt remaining 1/2 stick butter and pour on crackers. Bake on 350 degrees for 30 minutes and enjoy!

White Mountain Salad

Recipe submitted by Jean of Middletown, Indiana

- 1 small can crushed pineapple (in juice)
- 1/4 cup lemon juice
- 1 can Eagle brand milk
- 1 can chopped pecans
- 1 eight oz tub cool whip (thawed)

In a large bowl, stir all ingredients together. Cover and refrigerate for 2 hours.

"When I take this recipe to a dinner, I always get several requests for the recipe!" - Jean

The MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS is a periodic publication of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency and the 61 communities that it serves with wholesale power.

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How Do I Save Energy in Hot Weather?

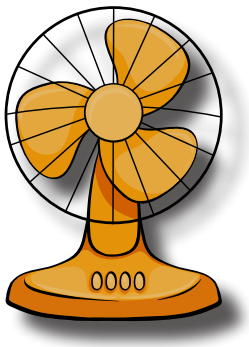
Last year, we asked *Municipal Power News* readers, "What are some of the methods you use the reduce your energy consumption in hot weather?" Here's what Kenneth had to say!

"Our answer at home is to close the drapes, blinds, and try to cook with the air fryer, microwave, or outside on the grill instead of using the stove or oven on the really hot days. We've already purchased new thermo sliding glass doors with blinds and low-e ratings. We've also spray-foamed the basement walls and the underside of the roof. For a 1964 house, we feel pretty efficient.

At work, we try to close the blinds and raise the thermostat a degree or two. We also bought two digital smart thermostats and replaced the old mercury bulb sliders."

-Kenneth E

That's a great answer, full of energy efficiency tips! Below are a few other ways you and your family can save on energy this summer.

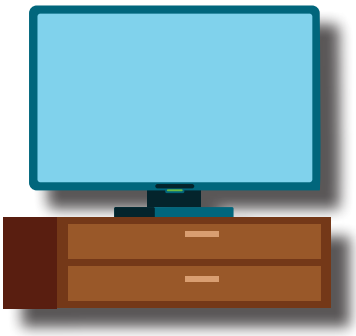


Energy Efficiency Tip #1

Use fans around your home to circulate cool air. Set ceiling fans to turn counter clockwise, as this will push air down and create a cooler feeling in the room.

Energy Efficiency Tip #2

Replace air filters in your home with each season. Dirty air filters can cause your system to work harder and longer, using unecessary energy as a result.



Energy Efficiency Tip #3

Keep lamps and TV sets away from your thermostat. Thermostats can sense the heat that these items give off, which can cause the A/C to run longer than required.

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IMPA Commissioner: Ruth Davidson

Cook with Safety in Mind!

To many of us, cooking is such a mundane daily task that we often don't remember how dangerous it can be if things get out of hand. Prevention is always the best way to protect yourself from electric and fire hazards, so make sure you're following these tips next time you whip something up in the kitchen:

- Never leave cooking food unattended, whether on the stovetop or in a microwave
- Make sure your kitchen and bathrooms have GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter) protected outlets
- Unplug appliances when not in use
- Make sure you have working smoke alarms and never disable a smoke alarm when cooking •