

MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

Town of Straughn



IMPA
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

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What is Public Power?

Straughn is one of the 72 communities in Indiana that owns its own electric utility. For nearly 90 years, the town's locally-owned utility has provided quality electric service. Nationwide, there are over 2,000 public power utilities serving nearly 50 million people. The Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), a not-for-profit wholesale power agency,

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What is Public Power?

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provides Straughn with low-cost, reliable, and environmentally-friendly energy to meet the power needs of the community. IMPA provides wholesale power to 61 cities, towns, and villages through Indiana and Ohio, and truly appreciates its relationship with the Straughn community.

IMPA and Straughn work together to deliver all the benefits of public power to local residents and businesses in the community. These benefits include:

Local Control

Like public schools and libraries, public power utilities are owned by the community and run as a division of local government. Governed by a local city council or an elected or appointed board, community citizens have a direct voice in utility decisions, including the rates it charges and its sources of electricity.

Affordability

Across the country, municipal electric utilities continue to lead the way in providing customers with low-cost energy. Public power's historically lower rates are the result of the low-cost structure central to its business model, supported by its not-for-profit status, access to tax-exempt financing, higher credit ratings, and its ability to contract for low-cost power supplies.

Community Investment

Public power utilities are embedded into the fabric of their communities and support a range of community programs including charitable, educational, and beautification programs. Public power employs 93,000 local people across the United States in hometown jobs.

Reliability

Public power utilities are actively responsive to customers' needs and concerns because their primary goal is to provide efficient, reliable service to the customers in their communities. Public power utilities focus on overall system reliability; quick restoration of power after an outage; and making excellent customer service a priority.

Environmental Responsibility

Public power utilities utilize diverse generation sources when providing power to their customers, including natural gas, coal, and nuclear, as well as renewable energy sources such as solar, water, and wind. Since 2014, IMPA has installed over 30 solar parks in 21 communities throughout the state, generating nearly 100 megawatts of renewable energy. Public power utilities recognize the importance of environmental stewardship and continue to invest in sustainable power sources.

Winter Energy Efficiency Tips

While temperatures remain low, some residents and businesses may see their electric use go up. Luckily, since Straughn's electric utility is a public power utility and a member of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency, your community already provides you with some of the best electric rates in Indiana. As outside temperatures stay cold, you can take the following energy-saving measures to save even more on your utility rates.

- Take advantage of sunlight and open curtains on south-facing windows during the day to help warm your home.
- Set your thermostat as low as is comfortable during the day and reduce a few degrees when you are sleeping or away from home.
- Replace furnace and heat pump filters at least once a month for the best efficiency.
- Set your water heater to the warm setting at approximately 120°F.
- Find and seal any air leaks you feel coming from cracks or gaps in windows and doorways.

Tidbits & Trivia

The **Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA)** is a not-for-profit organization that provides an economic, reliable, and environmentally responsible power supply to its members.

IMPA provides this wholesale power to 61 communities in Indiana and Ohio. IMPA member utilities purchase their power through IMPA and deliver that power to the residents and companies within your community.

Question: In what year was the Indiana Municipal Power Agency founded?

If you would like assistance with your answer, visit our website at **impa.com** and explore our pages for information that could help you formulate a good guess!

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! We will randomly select the winner from a pool of correct entries.

Watt's the Word?

Investigating power terminology

Energy

noun

The capacity to do work. In physics, it exists in potential, kinetic, thermal, **electrical**, and various other forms.

The origins of the English word "energy" come from the Ancient Greek term *energeia*, meaning "activity/operation." The term was used by Aristotle in 4th century BCE to convey a force of expression in rhetoric. It wasn't until the 1800s that the word became associated with electricity, with engineer William Thomson claiming in 1867, "Electricity is a form of energy." In physics, energy is measured in various units, such as joules, watts, calories, and more!

"energy, n." OED Online, Oxford University Press, September 2020, www.oed.com/view/Entry/62088.

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