Municipal Power News

IMPA

Bargersville Utilities

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Advanced Metering Infrastructure

Did you know that Bargersville has implemented an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) initiative throughout the town in recent years? 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.

Utilities across the United States are interested in AMI because the system provides cost savings to the towns and cities that use the technology.

"The best thing about AMI is that it will help us see issues as soon as they crop up," said Kevin Killinger, Bargersville Utilities Manager. "We're also able to provide real-time data to our customers who have questions about their electric usage. We're glad to be using a new, state of the art metering system to continue serving the community to the best of our ability."

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The Public Power Difference

The beginning of 2025 kicked off with heavy snow and blizzard conditions, resulting in a historically cold and icy January. Even warmer regions of the country experienced rare snowfall in their areas, with snow dusting the beaches of the Gulf Coast and ice building up in southeastern states like Georgia and Alabama. Like most regions in the nation, Indiana experienced a frigid January as well.

During winter storms, families rely on their electric utility to keep warm, stay safe, cook meals, and access crucial information and weather updates. Businesses and vital facilities, such as hospitals and emergency service stations, depend on power to protect their communities. As temperatures plummeted in early January throughout Indiana, several utilities faced outages and power interruptions. However, municipally-owned utilities across the state fared particularly well, due to their utilities' consistent focus on building resilient systems and fast response times. After heavy snowfall on January 5, one municipality reported that though they experienced an outage during the storm, they were able to bring all customers online within 2 hours. Most of Indiana's public power communities experienced the same – through this storm, there were only minimal power interruptions which were resolved swiftly by local line crews.



While they do generate more in the summer, IMPA solar parks still produce power through the winter.

This trend plays out on a national scale year-round. The 2024 Public Power Statistical Report, put together by the American Public Power Association, states that "public power utilities on average resolve outages 52% quicker than other utilities and 41% quicker than other utilities on average following a major event." The report showed that during major events, public power customers get power back an average of three hours sooner than customers of other utilities. Those three hours can be vital to communities, allowing hospitals to operate life-sustaining technology, businesses to bring large equipment back online, and families to keep their homes warm and food safe from spoilage.

Public power utilities tend to be more reliable than other types of utilities because of their community focus. Local leaders who direct the funds of these

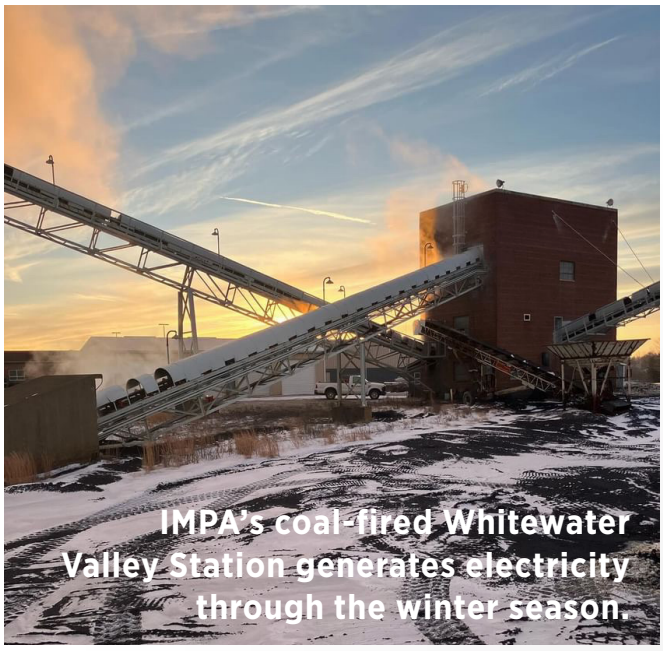


Richmond Power & Light Providing Mutual Aid to Henderson, KY this January

utilities prioritize local investment in the community, meaning that building a reliable electric infrastructure always remains a prime concern. Due to their not-for-profit business structure, public power utilities invest every dollar that customers pay back into the utility, rather than divvying out profits to shareholders. This means that public power utilities often invest more readily in system upgrades and preventive maintenance, contributing to stable service.

Public power communities in general enjoy these reliability benefits, but the 61 members of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) receive even more. IMPA and its operations subsidiary, the IMPA Service Corp, work with member communities to ensure the health and vitality of public power systems. Through January's storms, IMPA's members realized the advantage of their collective efforts to fortify all member systems with minimal power issues through the windy, icy, snowy weather.

Since we always expect our electricity to be there in times of need, it often isn't celebrated enough when utilities remain online through difficult times. However, this month was a resounding success for public power utilities, as their communities stayed powered through the harshest winter conditions in years.•



IMPA's coal-fired Whitewater Valley Station generates electricity through the winter season.

Reader Feedback

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.

What's the first thing you do each day that requires electricity, and what would your morning look like without it?



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!

Topic 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!



Advanced Metering Infrastructure

-continued from page 1

Check out all the benefits of AMI below!

Reduced Outage Time

AMI monitors the local electric system and sends notifications to the utility office if issues like a power outage or water leak occur. As a result, the utility can respond to utility issues immediately, sometimes before customers even notice them. Bargersville's AMI system also provides utility personnel with a service map, allowing them to locate problem areas rather than finding them by trial and error.

Labor and Cost Savings

AMI eliminates the need to send utility workers out in the field to read meters, as the task can now be performed remotely.



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This saves the utility dozens of manhours and allows workers to redirect their focus to other aspects of utility operations.

More Accurate Usage Data

AMI's ability to remotely read utility consumption on a regular basis allows customers to more accurately track their usage. Customers can analyze the information provided by AMI meters to monitor patterns of usage and find ways to improve their home's efficiency.

Increased Reliability

AMI meters detect issues that don't necessarily cause outages or interruptions but have the potential to become a problem down the road. With this advanced notice, Bargersville's utility can proactively solve issues before service is disrupted, increasing overall reliability.•

What's the Word?

Investigating Power Terminology

Grounded

An electrical circuit being "grounded" means that it's connected to the earth in some way. "Grounding" allows electricity to have a safe, controlled path to flow through the circuit, safeguarding equipment and people from electric shocks.

In products like household appliances and lighting, grounding wires are built into the product so that they may be connected to the ground during installation. Large electric infrastructure often has grounding rods, or even a network of grounding grids buried underneath them for protection. All of this keeps our homes and communities safe from high voltages.

If you're ever working with electrical equipment, be sure to follow proper safety precautions and take grounding any electrical circuits seriously!

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

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

Editor: Niki Dick
Senior Director of Marketing Communications

Correspondent:
Whitney Hicks
Communications Coordinator

Cooking Corner

Chicken Enchilada Casserole

Recipe submitted by Jennifer of Anderson, Indiana

- 1 Rotisserie chicken deboned
- 1 10oz Can Cream of Mushroom Soup
- 1 10oz Can Cream of Chicken Soup
- 1 10oz Can Chicken Broth
- 1 10oz Can Rotel or diced tomatoes & green chiles (drained)
- 1 Medium onion, chopped
- 1 lb Grated cheese (fiesta blend or 1/2 sharp or cheddar, 1/2 monterey jack combined)
- 10-12 Soft corn tortillas torn in pieces
- Hot sauce, sriracha to taste

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In large skillet, saute onion until desired tenderness. Combine chicken, soups, broth and rotel. Cook until heated and bubbly.

In 9x13 casserole dish, make two layers starting with tortillas, chicken mixture, and cheese. Bake uncovered for 30 minutes.



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Argos
Bainbridge
Bargersville
Blanchester, OH
Bremen
Brooklyn
Brookston
Centerville
Chalmers
Coatesville
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Huntingburg
Jamestown
Jasper
Kingsford Heights
Knightstown
Ladoga
Lawrenceburg
Lebanon
Lewisville
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Williamsport
Winamac

What Device Could You Not Live Without?



In the last edition of the Municipal Power News, we asked you "what is one electronic appliance or gadget that you couldn't imagine living without?" Here are some of your responses!

Lance, Emily, and Bentley of Middletown, Indiana provided a great response that reminds us all of the importance of reliable electricity:

"We asked this question to our son and his response was as follows:

> **'I would choose the heater [furnace] so I can stay warm in the winter and not be cold!'**

We got to thinking about our son's response and realized as parents we oftentimes take our electricity for granted! Our son has severe asthma, so we try to keep our house thermostat settings at a comfortable temperature. We rely on our furnace, not just to help keep our family warm in the colder months, but also to keep us as safe and healthy as possible by reducing the amount of asthmatic symptoms that can arise. Having a warm house in the winter is essential for our family and we thank you for helping to make that possible."

Electricity ensures that we have access to healthy environments and medical devices, if needed. Several respondents also mentioned the importance of their CPAP equipment and oxygen concentrators, further emphasizing this point.

Many also mentioned that they couldn't live without their refrigerators, microwaves, or air conditioners. Cellphones, iPads, and computers were also common responses. Others referenced the importance of electronic gadgets that allow them to pursue hobbies, such as John of Richmond, Indiana:

"Other than the basic appliances, I couldn't imagine living without my electronic music gear (synthesizers, drum machines, effects, power amps, mixers, etc) and guitar amps. If I had to choose just one, I would choose the Korg OpSix FM synthesizer."

Each response was a wonderful highlight of how important electricity is to our day-to-day lives. Thank you to everyone who provided their perspective!

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The Municipal Power News is published by the Indiana Municipal Power Agency and Bargersville Utilities.

IMPA Commissioner: Kevin Killinger

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Notification Management System



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Sign up today to receive real-time alerts about water outages, boil orders, maintenance updates, and more.

Don't miss important updates stay connected, stay informed!