

Former Commissioner Awarded by IMPA

Dick Klein of Tipton, Indiana was recognized by the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) this summer for his prolific advocacy of public power. Klein has dedicated decades of his life to serving the community of Tipton, and his contributions have vastly improved the quality of life for residents and business owners in the city. Klein worked as a construction electrician from 1955 to 1972 and served as Business Manager and Financial Secretary of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) for 16 years. He also served on the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission for 10 years and has been a member of the Tipton Municipal Utility Board since 2005. He also served one year as International Representative for the IBEW and is a member of IBEW Local 873.

- continued on page 2



IMPA Hosts Solar Park Ribbon Cutting in Tipton

On June 26, officials from the City of Tipton and Tipton Municipal Utilities joined with representatives from the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) to cut the ribbon on the Tipton 2 Solar Park. With the second solar park's commissioning, Tipton now has the solar capacity to power the annual power usage of approximately 1,200 homes in the community.

IMPA's solar park program is unique among joint action agencies in the US. IMPA self performs the design, procures the equipment, administers the construction management under a long-term relationship with its General Contractor, and operates and maintains all of its solar parks. Since 2014, the Agency has worked with its member communities to develop renewable sites that are directly

- continued on page 3

Former Commissioner

- continued from page 1



IMPA President and CEO Jack Alvey (left) with Dick Klein (right).

Since 2014, Klein also served as a commissioner to the IMPA Board of Commissioners before retiring from the role

this June. As commissioner, he worked hard to support his community and the Agency, fostering Tipton's relationship with the Board and serving on the IMPA Nominating Committee, Operating Committee, and Reengineering Forum. Klein played an integral role in bringing two solar parks to the city of Tipton as well as in the utility's pursuit of upgrading its meters to a state-of-the-art Automated Metering Infrastructure.

At the celebration of Tipton's second solar park, IMPA recognized Klein's years of dedication with an award of recognition.

"We wanted to present this award to Dick because he's been such an outspoken advocate of public power and his work has changed our industry for the better," said Jack Alvey, President and CEO of IMPA. "He's been an incredible ally and valued voice at the table for over a decade. We're grateful for the legacy that Dick leaves behind." •

Executive Committee Visits Rating Agencies

IMPA's Executive Committee recently traveled to New York City to attend meetings with rating agencies who assign the Agency's bond credit ratings. Here, IMPA officials shared the Agency's story with representatives from the three major bond rating agencies in the US. These annual meetings allow IMPA to update the rating agencies on the IMPA's and the Members' financial and operating results and discuss future opportunities and challenges.

IMPA consistently receives high marks from bond rating agencies, with ratings of A+/A1 from Fitch, Moody's, and Standard and Poor's. These strong ratings are supported by IMPA's solid management team and Board of Commissioners, excellent financial record, and its ability



Left to Right: IMPA CFO Chris Rettig, Shawn Lickey, Allison Huenemann, Paul Bartlow, Andy Hicks, Dick Justice, Josh Chance, IMPA CEO Jack Alvey, IMPA EVP of Engineering and Generation Joe Schmidt

to effectively manage and evolve its power supply to maintain a diverse, reliable, and cost-effective portfolio. The Agency's transparency with bond rating agencies safeguards IMPA's member communities and future investments for the benefit of utility customers. •

IMPA Hosts Ribbon Cutting in Tipton

- continued from page 1

connected to member distribution systems. This allows the energy produced at IMPA's solar parks to be consumed by local municipal customers, ensuring the solar parks directly serve the community where they are located. In addition to the Tipton 2 Solar Park, IMPA has also brought solar parks in Veedersburg and Winamac, Indiana online in 2025. Altogether, IMPA has 54 solar parks throughout the state with over 210 megawatts of IMPA constructed solar generation in its power supply portfolio.

"We are thrilled to add another solar park here in Tipton," commented Jim Ankrum, General Manager of Tipton Municipal Utilities. "These solar parks enhance the diversity of our generation resources while providing an educational opportunity for our students, residents, and visitors. It's another wonderful community asset to have."

"The City of Tipton is proud to continue its long-standing partnership with IMPA through the development of the Tipton 2 Solar Park," said Mayor Kegan Schmicker. "As a founding member of IMPA, Tipton has always recognized the value of collaboration to ensure reliable, forward-looking energy solutions. This project reflects our shared commitment to innovation and sustainability, and we look forward to continued success together."

This fall, IMPA also plans to complete construction of a battery attached to its Richmond 6 Solar Park to investigate the feasibility and value of the technology. If this pilot project proves successful, solar parks may be able to provide some dispatchable energy rather than only supplying generation when the sun is shining. •

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Andy Hicks of Tell City Recognized Nationally

This summer, General Manager of Tell City Electric and IMPA Commissioner Andy Hicks was given the Honor Roll award from the American Public Power Association (APPA). APPA is the national voice for public power utilities, and the Association's Honor Roll recognizes employees of public power utilities who have made significant local contributions to public power. Since moving to Tell City in the fall of 2021, Hicks has dedicated his time to improving the city's utility and working with the community to better local quality of life.

One of the biggest projects that Hicks has undertaken as GM with Tell City was the construction of a new substation. Hicks ensured

- continued on page 4



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Andy Hicks of Tell City

- continued from page 3

that the project's \$4 million budget was used productively to build an exceptional substation to support the community's current needs and future growth. He also helped to keep much of the costs of the project within the community – approximately 19% of the substation's total cost went toward community businesses who contributed concrete work, foundation work, equipment parts and bolts, and more.

Hicks encourages his crew to give back to the community. Each year, the Tell City line crew attends career days with the local school corporation to demonstrate job opportunities for students. They also work to deliver food to the Tell City food bank and oftentimes collaborate with local Catholic organizations to provide weekly meals to those in need. Hicks' team also traveled to the southeast United States in the



aftermath of Hurricane Helene to help restore power to the millions of public power customers who were without electricity. These endeavors show Hicks' true care for community and the ideals of public power.

In July, Hicks was also awarded the 2025 Distinguished Citizen Award by the Tell City Historical Society for his consistent support of the community. •