



IMPA Service Corp Offers New AMI Program

At the end of 2019, IMPA Service Corp, the Indiana Municipal Power Agency's (IMPA) engineering and operations subsidiary, launched a new program to assist IMPA member communities in implementing smart metering technology. The Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) program was designed to utilize economies of scale to help IMPA communities realize savings in their efforts to acquire the latest technology in metering. AMI is an integrated system of smart meters, communications networks, and data management systems that enables two-way communication between utilities and meters. Through the AMI program, IMPA communities can partner with IMPA Service Corp to better access this best-in-class technology by spreading the cost of implementation and maintenance over a larger footprint.

Many communities are interested in AMI because the system provides cost savings to the towns and cities that use the technology. Since smart meters can both send and receive information, the installation of AMI would allow municipal utilities to read electric and water meters remotely, which provides

- continued on page 3

IMPA's Assets Cross \$2 Billion Threshold

Providing low-cost, reliable, and environmentally responsible power has always been the Indiana Municipal Power Agency's (IMPA) principal mission, and having a strong financial foundation is necessary in achieving this goal. While IMPA began operations in 1983 with zero assets, the Agency has continuously made wise investments in generation and transmission resources over the last 35 years. At the beginning of 2020, those wise decisions and investments culminated in IMPA officially passing the \$2 billion mark in total assets.

IMPA's first asset came in 1983 with the purchase of a 24.95% ownership in Unit 5 of the coal-fired Gibson Station in southern Indiana. The next investment for IMPA resulted in joint ownership of the Joint Transmission System (JTS), which provides transmission access to approximately two-thirds of the state of Indiana. IMPA's assets grew again in 1990 with a 12.88% ownership in Unit 1 of the coal-fired Trimble County station in northern Kentucky. Over the next 15 years, IMPA's assets would continue to grow with the addition of combustion turbine units, a 12.64% ownership in Illinois' Prairie State Energy Campus, and a second unit at Trimble County Station.

By 2014, IMPA adapted to changes in the electric industry and initiated the establishment of a solar program to construct renewable generation facilities in multiple IMPA communities. Starting in Richmond, Frankton,

- continued on page 2

Inside

page 2 - IMPA Workshop Schedule

page 3 - Follow Us On Social Media

page 4 - IMPA Solar Parks Under Construction

\$2 Billion in Assets

- continued from page 1

and Rensselaer, IMPA began installing solar parks with the mission of supplying environmentally responsible power to its member communities. By the end of 2019, IMPA established 25 solar parks in member communities, supplying 73 megawatts (MW) of renewable capacity. By mid-2021, IMPA plans to have over 150 MW of solar capacity online.

“Our investments in solar projects are becoming even more economical as the costs of construction continue to decrease,” said IMPA President and CEO, Raj Rao. “The construction of these solar parks is the right investment for the direction that the electric industry is headed in, and helps IMPA provide its members with a low-cost, reliable, and increasingly environmentally friendly power supply.”

With the investment in transmission resources and a variety of generation facilities, IMPA is proud to officially cross the \$2 billion mark in assets. By owning more of its own resources, IMPA has more control over its own operations and relies less on the fluctuating market prices of energy. The growth of IMPA’s investments directly lends itself to the Agency’s competitive electric rates. With a rich history of wise investments and plans to further expand the Agency’s assets in renewables, IMPA is confident that it will be supplying low-cost, reliable, and environmentally responsible power for decades to come. *W*

2020 IMPA Workshops

IMPA continues to offer a series of training programs geared toward municipal utilities each month. Covering a variety of topics, these sessions are meant to meet the needs of all utility personnel, including lineworkers, substation workers, meter personnel, engineers, and customer service personnel. The first two workshops of the year involved lineworker safety practices and transformer equipment.

The workshops are free to all IMPA members and member employees, and include all course materials, a certificate of completion, and a complimentary lunch. IMPA encourages all to register and attend the monthly workshops. For details about upcoming workshops and registration, visit IMPA’s website at www.impa.com/impaworkshops.

April 15 - IMPA Bootcamp

May 12 & 13 - Customer Service Boot Camp

June 3 - Social Media

July 8 - Public Utility Accounting

August 12 - Non-Verbal Communication

October 14 - System Planning 101

November 18 - Improve Reliability & Maintenance of High Voltage Distribution Systems *W*



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Solar Park Update



The Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) is proud to enter its sixth year of developing and constructing solar parks in partnership with its member communities. Over the last 5 years, IMPA constructed 25 solar parks in 19 cities and towns, making up 73 megawatts (MW) of the Agency's power supply portfolio. Five more solar parks are currently under construction, with plans to finish them this year. These solar parks will be located in the communities of Crawfordsville, Gas City, Scottsburg, and Tell City.

- continued on page 4

New AMI Program


- continued from page 1

labor savings and more accurate billing and customer data. In addition to remote meter reading, the system allows utility personnel to remotely disconnect and reconnect meters, as well. AMI is capable of monitoring the electric distribution system and will immediately send notifications to the utility if issues like a power outage or water leak occur. Using the map view that AMI supplies, utility personnel can also see the precise locations of any issues and send workers to the exact location of the problem, rather than having to estimate problem areas. In this way, AMI helps utilities work more efficiently, reduces outage response times, and minimizes labor and equipment costs.

"We are always looking for ways to assist our member communities with access to leading technologies and educational opportunities," stated President and CEO of IMPA, Raj Rao. "The AMI program will help many of our communities incorporate the most up-to-date metering technology and software available to reduce meter reading and utility billing costs and improve customer service."

Communities who participate in IMPA Service Corp's AMI program will cost share required software, server hosting, startup training, metering and outage maps, loss of power/phasing notifications, system monitoring, and customer usage data. Participating communities will supply their own physical infrastructure, but IMPA Service Corp can assist with installation of the AMI technology to help reduce the costs. Everything that is cost shared through the program will be billed to the community through IMPA Service Corp based on how many meters the participating member serves.

Since implementing this program at the end of the year, a few IMPA communities have already enrolled in the AMI initiative. Many other communities are showing interest and the Agency is confident that the program will continue to grow and benefit IMPA members throughout the state.

This AMI program is available to all of IMPA's 61 member communities in Indiana and Ohio. Individual municipal utilities that are interested are welcome to apply to the open enrollment that is available now. For more information about this incentive, contact IMPA Service Corp at 317-573-9955. 



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Solar Park Update

- continued from page 3

IMPA will continue to invest in solar power, with seven future solar parks being planned throughout 2020 and into 2021. The Agency hopes to eventually install at least one park in each of IMPA’s 61 member communities. By the end of 2021, IMPA plans to have constructed over 150 MW of solar generation as part of its portfolio.

IMPA is proud to be a leader in solar development and construction in Indiana. The Agency prioritizes a diverse power portfolio, which helps keep wholesale electric rates stable. Solar parks play a significant role in keeping IMPA’s portfolio diverse, leading to a power supply that is low- cost, reliable, and environmentally responsible. ☺

Solar Parks Currently Under Construction

Solar Park	MW-AC	Construction Start Month	Estimated Commissioning
Scottsburg	7.1	July 2019	March 2020
Gas City	2.5	Aug 2019	April 2020
Tell City 2	3.2	Sep 2019	May 2020
Crawfordsville 4	2.3	Oct 2019	June 2020
Crawfordsville 5	9.8	Nov 2019	Sep 2020