

IMPA Hosts Sales Trips

The Indiana Municipal Power Agency continuously seeks opportunities to bolster economic development initiatives in member communities, including the involvement of communities in IMPA-led sales trips to out of state markets around the US. This year, IMPA staff joined with mayors and representatives from local and regional economic development organizations on trips to Atlanta, Georgia, and Chicago, Illinois, in April and June, respectively.

During these sales trips, IMPA's group meets with site consultants and growing companies from target industries to share development opportunities in Indiana and IMPA's member communities. These target industries typically lean toward heavy electric users, including advanced manufacturing, food processing, automotive and electric vehicles, and data and information technology. Through meeting with developers and

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ISC's Restoration Services Keep Lights On

This summer, severe weather conditions have ripped through central Indiana several times, leaving many IMPA member communities without power and in need of extra help with restoration. IMPA Service Corp's Operations division has aided members through these difficult times with swift responses to communities in need, all while maintaining safe and efficient work practices.

One such event occurred on the afternoon of June 29, when a damaging line of thunderstorms swept across the Midwest, knocking out power to approximately 200,00 Hoosiers. These

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Town of Chalmers Joins AMI Program

Chalmers, Indiana, a northern IMPA community located in White County, became the most recent member to join IMPA Service Corp's Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) program this June. IMPA Service Corp launched its AMI program in late 2019 to give IMPA members better and more affordable access to the latest technology in metering. Since then, fifteen member communities have taken advantage of the cost-sharing initiative, now including Chalmers.

Most utilities across the country have either implemented AMI or are looking into installation, as it provides cost savings in labor and increases utility staff's ability to provide excellent customer service. Since AMI can

remotely send and receive signals, it allows for hands-off meter reading, precision in billing, and immediacy in outage response.

Through IMPA Service Corp's program, all participants cost share much of the software, server hosting, startup training, metering and outage maps, and system monitoring that is required for AMI implementation. This significantly reduces the total that the participating member would have to pay initially if they were to pursue AMI independently.

Now, IMPA Service Corp staff are working with Chalmers officials to begin the process of swapping out meters to this state-of-the-art technology and training local utility employees on its functionality. Soon enough, the town will become yet another IMPA community to improve its electric system with the assistance of IMPA Service Corp. ●

Executive Committee Travels to NYC

In early August, Indiana Municipal Power Agency's CEO and CFO traveled with the Agency's Executive Committee to New York City to attend meetings with rating agencies who analyze and assign the Agency's credit ratings. Here, IMPA officials shared the Agency's story and mission with representatives from these primary bond rating agencies in the US. This was the first time that IMPA has traveled to these meetings since 2019, as many businesses were kept from traveling for these discussions through the COVID-19 pandemic. ●



Left to right: Ron Koons, Josh Chance, Dick Justice, Tony Foster, Tony Pochard



Left to right: Tony Pochard, Ron Koons, Jim Caldwell, Ram Reddy, Brent Slover, Jack Alvey, Josh Chance, Tony Foster, Dick Justice

ISC's Restoration Services Keep Lights On

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storms severely impacted IMPA members, especially those on the west side of the state, with about 29% of the Agency's communities reaching out for help. IMPA Service Corp supported local restoration work, as did many municipal and other utilities and contractors.

More recently, multiple tornados touched ground and caused damage in the member community of Paoli, Indiana, in the early hours of August 7. Winds of over 100 mph uprooted trees, destroyed homes, damaged buildings, and downed power lines. IMPA Service Corp crews spent four days bringing power back to this community.

"Our line crews have been put to the test lately, and their dedication to our member communities is what has gotten us through the recent violent weather events," said Mike Adams, IMPA Service Corp Operations Manager. "We continue to work with our members to improve our communication and better our response times even more, and we're thankful to all the utility staff in our communities who help us do so."

IMPA and IMPA Service Corp are proud to partner with IMPA communities to ensure that all members have access to low-cost, reliable, and environmentally responsible power, no matter the weather. Many thanks to the committed line crews of IMPA and of public power utilities throughout Indiana for being there when the lights go out. ●

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companies, attendees market the benefits of working with Indiana communities, discussing local and statewide incentives, as well as the strength of IMPA as a wholesale utility. Meetings during the sales trips also help attendees understand the direction that economic development is trending toward on a nationwide scale.

"Through our trips, we're able to discover industry trends while also communicating the advantages of investment in Indiana," said Victoria Ross-Frost, IMPA Economic Development Specialist. "We'll hear about issues that companies are facing and what concerns they may have, and we're able to provide information on how Indiana and IMPA may be able to help."

The 2023 sales trips have been met with a wealth of positive feedback from attendees, all of whom stated they would be glad to attend another soon. Potential projects have also come about as a result, and because of the approval from sales trip attendees, IMPA is looking into how future trips can be even better.

"We try to keep our group relatively small so that we can ensure comfortable and personal interactions between companies and attendees," said Ross-Frost. "We've had so much success with our trips this year that we're exploring how we can create more opportunities in the future to expand IMPA member community reach to external markets." ●



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Randy Ennis Wins APPA Award

This year, the American Public Power Association awarded Randy Ennis of Washington, Indiana, with their Honor Roll Award. This designation recognizes employees of public power utilities that have made significant local contributions to public power. As the Electric Superintendent of Washington, Ennis is constantly advocating and working for the public power community to better local electric service and quality of life. He has dedicated 17 years to the utility and has served as the Electric Superintendent since 2019 and as an IMPA commissioner since 2021.

Congratulations to Randy and the Washington community! •

