

## 2023 IMEA CALENDAR

### June

**27** Distribution Devices Workshop    Scottsburg

### July

**6** IMEA Excavation Competent Person Workshop    Auburn

**19 – 20** Insulate & Isolate    Scottsburg

### August

**1 - 3** Introduction to Supervision    Scottsburg

**21 - 25** IMEA 611 Basic Workshop    Scottsburg

### September

**11 - 15** IMEA 612 Intermediate Workshop    Scottsburg

**22—23** IMEA Lineworkers Rodeo    Lawrenceburg



## People and Places



**Congratulations Bob Dunderman on your Retirement!**

### 38 Years of Service with Logansport Utilities

We are extending best wishes to Robert (Bob) Dunderman, who is retiring from Logansport Utilities July 7, 2023. Bob has been a dedicated member of their staff for 38 years.

Bob started his career as a tree trimmer November 13, 1984, at the age of 25. After 8 months he moved onto becoming a line apprentice, became a lineman in 1989, and advanced into the distribution supervisor position in 1996, overseeing the tree trimming and line distribution crews.

In 2002, Bob was promoted to the position of electric line distribution manager, overseeing the entire electric department, and then in 2021, became Vice-President of Operations. He has served as the President of the IMEA board twice, and many times as a board member. Bob will be greatly missed by LU and the IMEA, with many benefitting from his expertise, guidance, and friendship.

Bob is looking forward to staying busy with his next adventure, welcoming a new grandchild and running for a position on the Logansport city council in the fall.

**Lorri Foster, Logansport Utilities**  
Director of Marketing and Communications

**Registration is Available! [www.imea.com](http://www.imea.com)**

## IMEA LINeworkers RODEO



**Thank You to Our Host**

**THE CITY OF LAWRENCEBURG**

**&**

**LAWRENCEBURG MUNICIPAL UTILITIES**



<b>Friday, September 22nd</b>	
10:00 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.	Apprentice & Team Check-in
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Safety Meeting
2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Q&A
2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	View the Field / Judges Meeting
3:00 p.m. - Conclusion	Apprentice Events Begin
Conclusion of Events    Cookout	
<b>Saturday, September 23rd</b>	
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Team Check-in
8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Judges Meeting
9:00 a.m. - Conclusion	Team Events
3:00 p.m. - Concludes	Cookout / Awards

**Apprentice Events:**

1. Pole Top Rescue
2. Mystery Event
3. Mystery Event
4. Mystery Event

**Team Events:**

1. Pole Top Rescue
2. Mystery Event
3. Mystery Event
4. Mystery Event



**Lawrenceburg**  
A City on the Blue

## President Biden Signs Bill Lifting Debt Limit into Law; Measure Addresses Energy Permitting

The Fiscal Responsibility Act includes the text of the BUILDER Act of 2023, which is sponsored by Congressman Garrett Graves (R-LA) and was included in the broader House-passed energy permitting reform bill, the Lower Energy Costs Act (H.R. 1).

APPA was generally supportive of the provisions in the BUILDER Act to modernize the National Environmental Policy Act.

The BUILDER Act section includes statutory reforms to the National Environmental Policy Act, including project threshold, interagency coordination and review deadlines to prevent project delay, limits on what qualifies as a major federal action, and limits to prevent agencies from missing statutory deadlines. These statutory changes are considered the first significant reforms to NEPA since 1982.

The language would amend NEPA to clarify and narrow agency considerations to "reasonably foreseeable environmental impacts of the proposed agency action," "reasonably foreseeable adverse environmental effects," and "a reasonable range of alternatives to the proposed action that are technically and economically feasible and meet the purpose and need of the proposed action."

The legislation would also codify key elements of the One Federal Decision Framework, including development by the lead agency of a joint schedule, procedures to elevate delays or disputes, and, to the extent practicable, preparation of a single environmental document. The legislation also sets reasonable page limits for environmental documents and reasonable time limits of one year for environmental assessments and 2 years for environmental impact statements. The bill provides a right of action to project applicants if statutory deadlines are not met.

With respect to NEPA thresholds and streamlining, the legislation includes threshold considerations for agencies assessing whether NEPA applies to a proposed activity. The bill also includes provisions facilitating agencies adopting categorical exclusions of other agencies through a streamlined process.

Also, a project sponsor would be allowed to assist agencies in conducting environmental reviews to help speed up the process and to resolve issues without taking control or authority away from the lead agency.

The legislation also:

Amends NEPA and clarifies that a major federal action is limited to those which are "subject to Federal control and responsibility." It establishes a threshold consideration that is independent of the significance of impacts that may follow. It includes examples of actions that are not "major Federal actions";

Includes provisions requiring agencies to use reliable existing data sources and clarifies NEPA does not require undertaking new scientific and technical research to inform analyses; and Directs the Council on Environmental Quality to conduct a study on applying modern digital technologies to provide efficiencies in the permitting process; requiring the consideration of a government-wide permitting portal to streamline communications and data sharing between agencies and applicants.

Another section of the legislation would authorize the North American Electric Reliability Corporation to carry out, in consultation with regional operators, a study to examine total current transfer capabilities and provide recommendations to strengthen reliability and meet and maintain transfer capability between neighboring transmission regions.

The legislation also adds energy storage to this list of covered projects eligible for streamlining under the FAST Act and expedites the completion of the Mountain Valley Pipeline.

**AUTHORS, Paul Ciampoli**

News Director, American Public Power Association

**Registration is Available!**



2023  
IMEA  
ANNUAL BUSINESS  
MEETING &  
TECH EXPO  
October 3-5, 2023

Monroe Convention Center  
Bloomington, IN  
Leadership. Innovation. Collaboration.

INDIANA MUNICIPAL  
ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

The poster features a blue and white color scheme with a circular graphic on the right showing silhouettes of people in a meeting, overlaid with a network of lines and nodes. The background has a subtle pattern of dots and lines.



**Congratulations!**  
To  
*OUR...*



**Bryce  
Lamar**



**Bryce  
Howard**



**Kennedy  
Hughes**



**Sydney  
Nance**



**Van  
Skinner**



**Jocelyn  
Lumpkins**

# 2023 Scholarship Recipients

You have been  
recognized for your  
outstanding achievements.



## Jobs in Public Power

Public power is more to communities than just an essential utility. It is a source of unique and fulfilling career opportunities in your local community. Employees make a difference by serving their own neighborhoods and families. Talented high school, college and technical college graduates - and even technology, environmental and public service professionals - will find that competitive salaries aren't the only thing attractive about careers in public power.

To post a classified ad to our jobs in Public Power page. Please email text to [janel@imea.com](mailto:janel@imea.com).

Do you have important news or photos that you would like to share in our bi-weekly newsletters? Please email all news and photos to [janel@imea.com](mailto:janel@imea.com)

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Hosting the IMEA Annual Business Meeting



**IMEA FEATURED SEMINARS**



**Keynote Speaker**

Traci Cheatham, B23 Strategies  
*Harness Your Influence /  
The Future Work*



**Keynote Speaker**

Erick Rheam, Rheam Productions  
*Rise Above Chaos & Discover  
Significance*



**Keynote Speaker**

Janelle Dewolf, B23 Strategies  
*Harness Your Influence /  
The Future of Work*

# 2023 **ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

HAVING REPRESENTATION FROM EACH MUNICIPAL MEMBER OF THE IMEA ORGANIZATION IS IMPERATIVE FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND MEMBER ENGAGEMENT. WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO ATTEND AND UTILIZE THESE OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVING YOUR SKILL SET, CREATING BETTER EMPLOYEE COMMUNICATION AND LEARNING ABOUT THE SUCCESSES OF OTHERS AND APPLYING THEM TO YOUR WORKPLACE.

**Safety & Mutual Aid  
Roundtable / Panel  
Discussion:**

**Duane Richardson &  
Members**

*Topics: Safety / Mutual Aid*

**Register Today!**

**[www.imea.com](http://www.imea.com) / Events**

Leadership. Innovation. Collaboration.

Come share in networking with your neighboring utilities as well as taking part in our vendor expo offering the best in state-of-the-art products and services!



**Event Dates:**

**Tuesday - Thursday,  
October 3 - 5, 2023**