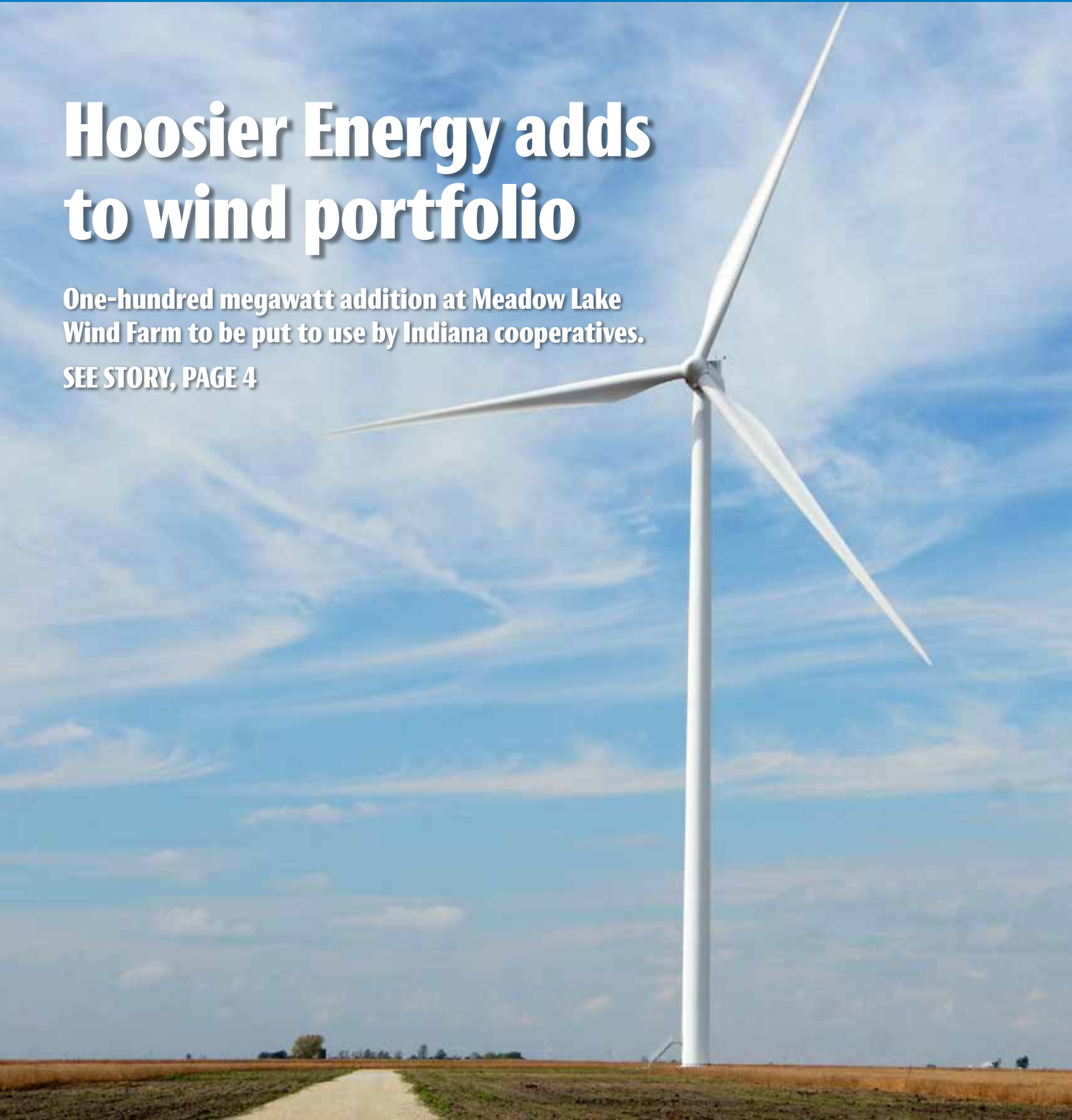


# ENERGYLINES

## Hoosier Energy adds to wind portfolio

One-hundred megawatt addition at Meadow Lake  
Wind Farm to be put to use by Indiana cooperatives.

SEE STORY, PAGE 4



## HOOSIER ENERGY APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING AND SAFETY PROGRAM



**HEATS GRADUATES:**  
**Back row left to right:**  
 Brandon Bambusch, Clint Schroeder, Matthew Busald, Rick Mauder, Ian Kindler, Jonathan Worland, Jacob Durcholz, Caleb Meyer  
**Front row left to right:**  
 Eric Seibert, Johnathan Herbert, Scott Strange, Wes Jones, Tyler Powell, Ronald Barnhart, Eric Faulkenberg.  
**NOTE:** Not all graduates were able to attend the award ceremony. The full list of graduates is below.

# Graduates honored for completion of program

Leaders of the Hoosier Energy Apprenticeship Training and Safety (HEATS) program honored the 38th graduating class on Oct. 20 at the French Lick Resort. Five apprentices from Hoosier Energy and 12 from member distribution cooperatives received diplomas marking the completion of the program.

The nationally recognized training program requires non-indentured graduates to complete 576 hours of classroom instruction. Indentured graduates are also required to complete 8,000 hours of on-the-job training as well as earn an Applied Science Associate Degree from Ivy Tech.

Dave Helton is part of the safety and training team at Hoosier Energy and the HEATS program. During the graduation ceremony he reminded graduates of an important safety message.

“We have taught you to always wear your personal protection equipment. But the best thing we have concerning safety is each other. Always watch out for one another at all times in both the simple and complex jobs,” said Helton.

Since its inception in 1975, the program has graduated 638 apprentices. Early in the program, HEATS focused on training line workers. Over the years, courses were added and the curriculum now includes training for distribution and transmission meter-relay technicians and linemen as well as substation personnel, power plant maintenance mechanics, electricians and instrumentation and control technicians. [E1](#)

### Linemen Program Graduates

Caleb Meyer	Hoosier Energy	Indentured
Tyler Powell	Henry County REMC	Indentured
Clint Schroeder	Clark County REMC	Indentured
Eric Seibert	WWV REMC	Non-Indentured
Scott Strange	Orange County REMC	Indentured
John Worland	Hoosier Energy	Indentured
Johnathan Herbert	RushShelby Energy	Indentured
Wes Jones	Henry County REMC	Indentured
Ian Kindler	Southeastern Indiana REMC	Non-Indentured
Matthew Busald	RushShelby Energy	Indentured
Jacob Durcholz	Dubois REC	Indentured
Brandon Bambusch	Orange County REMC	Indentured
Ronald Barnhart	Southeastern Indiana REMC	Non-Indentured

### Substation Mechanic Program Graduates

Jared Bartlett	Hoosier Energy	Indentured
Rick Mauder	Hoosier Energy	Non-Indentured
Randy Franklin	Hoosier Energy	Indentured

### Meter Relay Program Graduate

Eric Faulkenberg	Southern Indiana Power	Indentured
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## ON THE COVER

With the completion of EDP Renewables' Meadow Lake Wind Farm, Hoosier Energy and Wabash Valley Power will add to the grid a combined 100 megawatts of wind energy.



## SEND COMMENTS TO

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## Correction:

An article in the October issue of EnergyLines about co-op's sending line crews to help with hurricane recovery efforts did not mention Dubois REC sending linemen to help with these efforts.



HE photo

**PRACTICING SAFETY:** Phil Ballard, Hoosier Energy's safety specialist for generation, left, demonstrated the proper way to use a fire extinguisher using the PASS method with Human Resource Analyst Recruitment and Employee Development, Tina Dixon.

# Headquarters safety week provides educational variety

Bloomington Headquarters held its first Safety Week as a part of Hoosier Energy's "Safe by Choice" initiative. The week's events included a safety and health fair, a distribution system presentation, fire extinguisher training and an active shooter and firearm safety demonstration.

The event included multiple hands-on safety tips, allowing employees to practice ladder safety, power tool safety, learn about fall protection equipment, and practice stretches that can be done at a workstation to help relieve tension and improve circulation throughout the day.

## Distribution presentation

Kevin Burch, Hoosier Energy's safety and training team leader for transmission provided a detailed presentation about what happens to power when it leaves a generating

station. As always, Burch offered great power line safety tips for employees.

## Fire extinguisher safety


Phil Ballard, Hoosier Energy's safety specialist for generation, demonstrated the proper way to use a fire extinguisher using the PASS method.

**PULL** – Pull the pin.

**AIM** – Aim low, pointing the extinguisher nozzle at the base of the fire.

**SQUEEZE** – Squeeze the handle to release the extinguishing agent.

**SWEEP** – Sweep from side-to-side at the base of the fire until it appears to be out.

It's important to monitor the area where a fire was after it's extinguished to ensure it does not re-ignite. If it does, repeat the aim, squeeze and sweep steps. 

## BELL LEADERSHIP TRAINING

# Training helps build stronger business leaders

Program helps attendees begin journey of self-discovery leading to personal growth

Leadership, according to Dr. Bell, begins by understanding yourself. The soft-spoken creator of the Bell Leadership Institute, has devoted his life to developing world-class leaders.

Dr. Bell accomplishes this through a simple metric called “The Achiever Model.” Through this model, attendees are able to understand areas where they have extreme personality patterns and areas that they have core competencies.

Dr. Bell developed this model to help individuals understand their strengths and weaknesses and develop an action plan for improvement.

Taking the training for the first time, Nash Summers, System Engineer at Clark County REMC, learned of areas he could improve.

“This program allows you to clearly see what you need to work on. By taking the time to work on myself today, I am moving in a positive direction so I can continue to be successful in the future,” said Summers.

The nearly three-day training is just the first step for attendees. The next



*HE photo*

**LEADERSHIP:** Nash Summers, of Clark County REMC, right, shares a laugh with Lara Sullivan, of Henry County REMC, during Bell Leadership training at Hoosier Energy’s headquarters.

steps can be daunting. Nicole Murphy, Manager of Finance and Administration at Henry County REMC is developing plans to apply what she has learned in her life.

“I am terrified of the steps I need to take to improve in the leadership areas I am weak in but I am so glad that Dr. Bell

*“By taking the time to work on myself today, I am moving in a positive direction so I can continue to be successful in the future.”*

**Nash Summers,**  
Clark County REMC System Engineer

has provided a path that explains what the next steps are,” said Murphy.

The ‘how to get there’ aspect is different from all of the other leadership training I have done,” added Murphy.

To identify why we act in the ways we do, this program takes a strong look at one’s past. The benefit of doing this is attendees learn new ways to make better connections with people at home and work.

Lara Sullivan, Manager of Marketing and Communications at Henry County REMC, now has a model that provides structure related to her actions.

“This training was very intense and deep. It took a different avenue from other leadership training I have experienced. It connected my past to where I am today. It went to my roots. I feel it will help me make better connections now that I know why I do what I do,” said Sullivan. [E](#)

## COVER STORY



HE photo

**RENEWABLE ENERGY DEDICATION:** From left to right: Josh Cisney, Don Book, Heath Norrick, Chad Jenkins, Jodie Creek, Dan Schantz, Steve Smith, Mike Rampley, Bob Stroup, Jerry Pheifer, Eugene Roberts, David Smith and Jerry Jackle.

# Wind project grows renewable portfolio

## Partnership contributes to Indiana's rank of 12th nationwide in wind capacity

### WOLCOTT, IN

With the completion of EDP Renewables' Meadow Lake V Wind Farm in White County Indiana, Hoosier Energy and Wabash Valley Power will soon add to the grid a combined 100 megawatts (MW) of wind energy. A joint dedication for the Meadow Lake V Wind Farm took place Oct. 10 in White County.

The 100 MW of renewable energy from Meadow Lake V Wind Farm will benefit Hoosier Energy and Wabash Valley Power's combined 41 distribution electric cooperatives, located in Indiana and parts of Illinois and Missouri. More than 611,000 homes, farms and businesses are served by the 41 distribution cooperatives.

"Electric cooperatives are focused on providing cost-effective energy for their member systems through a variety of resources including renewables," said Steve Smith, Hoosier Energy President and Chief Executive Officer. "This agreement adds

more wind resources to our 'all-of-the-above' portfolio, which includes coal, natural gas, wind, hydro and landfill gas generation."

In 2016, the two G&Ts entered into a 20-year power purchase agreement with EDP Renewables to purchase 100 percent of the wind capacity from Meadow Lake V, creating the impetus for the development.

Located near Interstate 65 in northwestern Indiana, the first phase of the Meadow Lake Wind Farm began operations in 2009. With the completion of phase V this year, the total installed capacity is 601 MW – enough electricity to power approximately 159,000 average-sized Indiana homes.

In addition, the economic benefits EDP Renewables' wind farms bring to the state include: creation of 674 construction jobs, 66 permanent jobs, and an additional \$7.4 million in cumulative payments made to local governments.

The power purchase agreement will provide 25 MW of energy annually in 2018 and an additional 50 MW in 2020 for Hoosier Energy's cooperative member systems. For Wabash Valley Power members, the agreement will provide 25 MW of energy beginning in 2018. [E](#)

## CASE STUDY

# Social media success story

The number of consumers who have devices connected to the internet has increased to 89 percent. They are now spending an average of five hours per day online. This is why communicating electronically is playing a larger role for electric co-ops.

One cooperative with success using social sites is Jackson County REMC. Nicole Ault heads up these efforts.

Ault said, “Social media is the fastest most effective way for us to reach members. This efficiency allows us to keep members up-to-date with what is happening at the co-op.”

That efficiency is important when the lights go out and the cooperative took notice. When there is an outage the cooperative provides as many details as possible every two hours – sooner if they have new information. The co-op has also created a Pinterest page that has pins showing parents what children can do while the power is out.

Ault has a strong system in place that incorporates text and images as well as links to other social media sites to provide their members with a diversified experience when interacting with the co-op online. [E](#)

# Recent end use survey shows trends of electric consumers

Understanding how consumers use electricity helps electric cooperatives serve electric consumers’ current and future energy needs. This survey provides quantifiable data that can help in the selection of marketing programs that are of value for consumers.

The biennial survey is conducted by an independent research firm. The survey helps Hoosier Energy and member cooperatives identify emerging trends as well as project future power supply needs.



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## Largest source of electric use

The greatest impact on electric usage by members for 2017 is heating fuel. Despite small shifts in the fuel mix, usage remained stable with electricity being the largest source of heating followed by propane. The majority of source units consist of electric furnaces followed by heat pumps.



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## Lighting technology

As lighting technology has transitioned from CFL to LED bulbs implementation of LED bulbs has seen growth. Consumers have adopted the new technology in their homes.



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## Social media usage

The ways members are communicating with their cooperative continue to change. This is driven by the increased use of mobile devices. Consumers are using their devices to access social media apps including: Facebook (71 percent); Pinterest (30 percent); and Google Plus (17 percent).

# McKelfresh set to retire from SCI REMC in 2018

Greg McKelfresh, President & CEO of South Central Indiana REMC will retire January 12, 2018, after 42 years of service at SCI REMC.

McKelfresh started at the REMC in 1974. McKelfresh climbed the professional ladder from temp to Assistant Office Manager, Senior Vice President, and eventually

CEO. He brought over four decades of knowledge and experience to the membership.

“McKelfresh’s experience and foresight have served our membership well. We’d like to thank him for his 42 years of dedication and service,” said SCI REMC Board Chairman Bruce Hamlin.



McKelfresh

# DSM update includes increased training for members

At the recent Marketing and Member Service meeting at Belterra Resort, co-op employees were updated on Demand Side Management programs by Manager of Marketing Wes McFarland.

Programs available for co-ops range from the heat pump water heater rebate program to the appliance recycling program.

“Our entire suite of DSM programs helps member systems better serve their consumers. They allow member systems to provide solutions consumers can use to help lower energy consumption and, in turn, lower their monthly energy bills,” said McFarland.

More training will be offered from the marketing department at Hoosier Energy in 2018. Topics include energy efficiency education programs and consumer-focused education using the TeamUp brand. Training is important for cooperative staff so they continue to provide value for members and are viewed as trusted energy advisors.

“The more knowledgeable co-op employees are about home energy consumption, the more value they provide to their membership. Being recognized as a trusted non-biased advisor helps improve member satisfaction,” said McFarland.

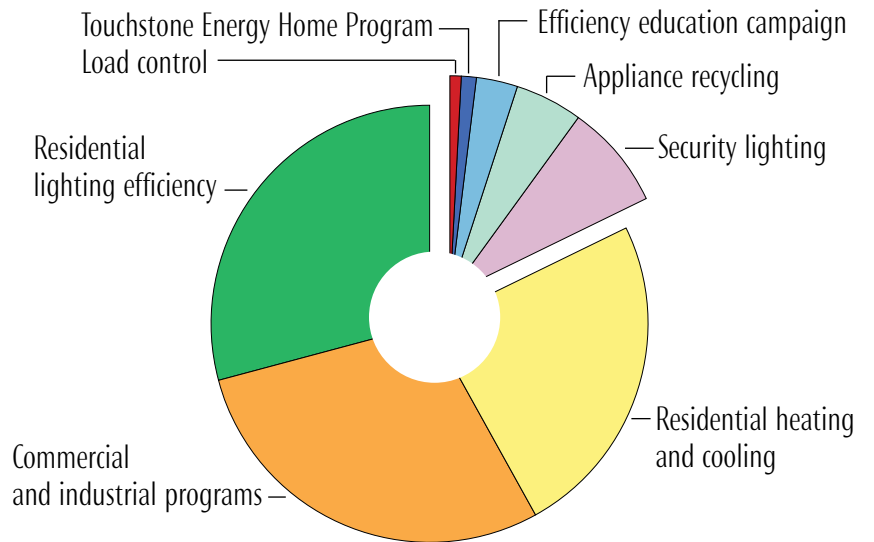
In order to better serve member-consumers, the process of developing formalized terms and conditions for programs and incentives offered by Hoosier Energy is underway.

One program showing these details is the residential lighting online store. Consumers now need an account number to access the store and there is a lifetime cap of \$500 in rebates per account.

“Although we’ve had program and measure requirements in the past, they were never recognized as all-inclusive and lacked a sense of enforceability. This formalized version will help achieve that,” said McFarland. [E](#)

## 2017 Demand Side Management program by cost

The majority of Demand Side Management energy savings occurred through residential heating, cooling and lighting programs as well as commercial and industrial programs – equating to a total of 82 percent of program costs.



*“The more knowledgeable co-op employees are about home energy consumption, the more value they provide to their membership. Being recognized as a trusted non-biased advisor helps improve member satisfaction.”*

**Wes McFarland**

Hoosier Energy Manager of Marketing



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Reduce your energy use with these easy to use, easy to install products.

Instant rebates on select products. Your savings start now!

You can reduce your energy use with big savings on our products. We also offer fast free shipping on all of your orders. Start shopping. Browse our product selection below.



FEATURED PRODUCTS

# New lighting store launches online

Member co-ops have a new online lighting store branded through the TeamUp program. The new site is an educational resource to help consumers make better lighting purchases. The lighting store will be featured in a future issue of EnergyLines. The next issue of EnergyLines will publish in January 2018.