

ENERGY LINES

PREPARING FOR WHAT WINTER CAN BRING

Employees at the Merom Generating Station have been working to ensure reliability during winter months. | **PAGE 5**



HEATS GRADUATING CLASS OF 2018

SAFETY EXCELLENCE

The Hoosier Energy Apprenticeship Training and Safety program provides specialized workforce training.



SEE STORY PAGE 4

PUBLISHING NOTE

EnergyLines does not publish a December issue. The next issue will be available in January 2019.

Sowders selected as top Economic Developer

Jeremy Sowders, Hoosier Energy Economic Development Coordinator, was recently selected as one of North America's Top 50 Economic Developers by Consultant Connect, a consulting agency designed to bridge the gap between economic developers and site consultants.

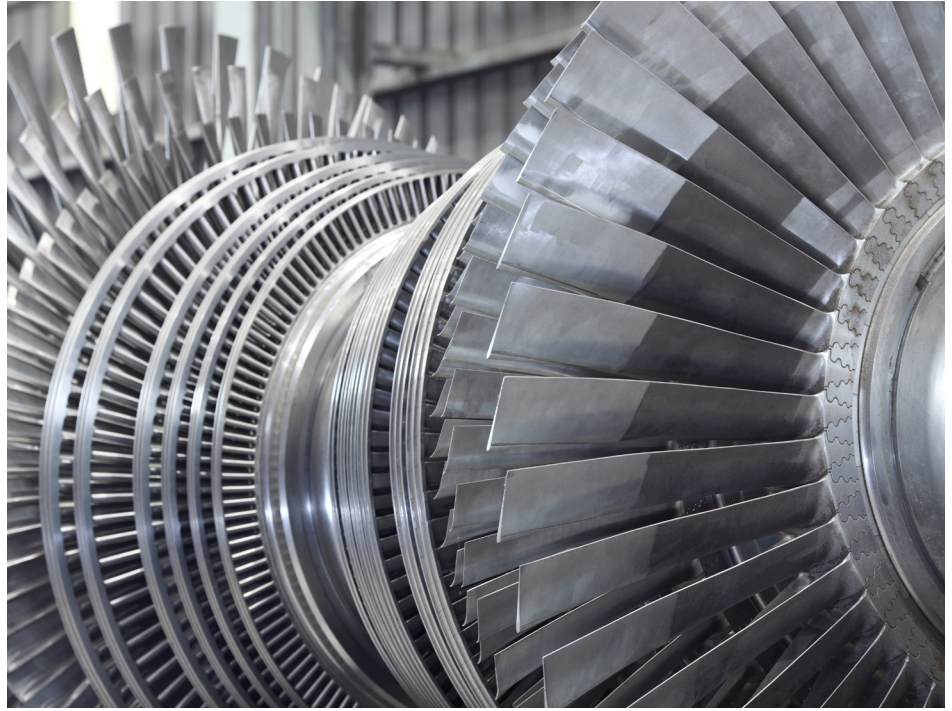


Sowders

These economic professionals were nominated by their colleagues in both the economic development industry and the site consultant community for excellent practices, innovation and success in building the communities they serve.

One award winner was highlighted each day from Sept. 17 through Nov. 30 via Twitter and LinkedIn. Sowders was highlighted on Nov. 7.

"Since joining Hoosier Energy in 2016, Jeremy has been providing our members strong economic development support. He has earned this recognition," said Manager of Economic Development and Key Accounts Harold Gutzwiller.



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Business restructuring

Siemens restructures as global demand for power equipment falls

Investors have been pressuring Siemens, an international conglomerate with a distinct energy division, to streamline its operations as its energy division has taken a downturn in demand.

According to a report in a November issue of the Wall Street Journal, Siemens said it would combine its five industrial businesses into three – power turbines and gas, manufacturing software and automation, and infrastructure.

Analysts have argued that Siemens should review selling its power business as it has seen a reduction in demand for gas turbines, the Journal reports.

Business in transition

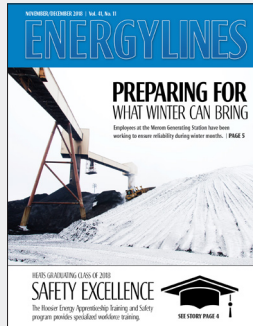
General Electric lighting division goes dark

General Electric has sold its commercial-use lighting division to private-equity firm America Industrial Partners, according to a Wall Street Journal report. This business sells LED lighting and had about \$1 billion in sales in 2017. The firm will continue to use the GE brand under a licensing agreement.

EnergyLines is published monthly by Hoosier Energy's Communication Department for members, employees and retirees of Hoosier Energy.

ON THE COVER

The preparation of the Merom Generating Station for winter weather began in October.



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Longtime UDWI REMC board member James Jackson dies

Longtime Utilities District of Western Indiana REMC Board member, James "Jimmy Jack" Jackson died Oct. 16 after injuries sustained in a farming accident this summer.

Jackson served on the Board of Directors for more than 35 years and held several officer positions over the years. During his time at the cooperative, he was a champion for policies that bettered the co-op and was the foremost advocate for members.

This past year, Jackson was instrumental in the changes UDWI undertook to cut costs and improve operations. He was especially known for his care and concern for the welfare of the employees at the cooperative. Jackson is a retired boiler-maker from Crane and had worked for the past several years on a 1,500-acre cattle farm and tended to his own property. He is survived by his wife Sharon, three children, and four grandchildren.



Jackson

Retired Orange County REMC Chief Executive Dan Arnold dies

Dan Arnold of Bedford, Indiana died on Oct. 29 at his home.

Arnold was born on March 7, 1949, in Sullivan, Indiana to the late Russell Arnold, Jr. and Shirley (Barrow) Humphrey. Arnold retired from Orange County REMC after working 42 years in the utility business.

Though modest of his accomplishments, he was proud to be the first person elected to the board of Cooperatives Federal Credit Union, serving six years as president of Co-op FCU, serving 10 years on the national

standing committee representing a four-state area, as well as being chosen to represent the industry at an off-peak energy symposium. He was a member of the American Legion, Burton Woolery Post 18, NRA and A.B.A.T.E.

Survivors include his wife of 28 years, Tina (Beard) Arnold, daughter Stephanie (Bo) Bailey of Brownsburg, stepdaughter Lesle (Todd) Payne of Bloomfield, stepson Steven (Shannon) Webb of Bloomington, and brother Mikel (Sharon) Arnold of Johnston, Iowa.



Arnold

How tie lines interconnect the grid

Hoosier Energy has interconnect points with other utilities on the grid. As power is transmitted – either being purchased or sold from one utility to another – equipment known as tie lines are used to provide an economical path for the energy to be supplied to the load.

Tie line (in red) open switch (in green)



Breaking the connection

This image shows the tie lines opened – breaking the connection to another energy company. Most interconnection tie lines have a switch between the two utilities. These switches are used to isolate or restore load based on system conditions.

Tie line (in red) closed switch (in green)



Making the connection

This image shows the tie lines closed – providing an interconnect with another energy company. In this example, Hoosier Energy's part of the grid is on the right and the connecting utility is on the left.

INTERCONNECTING THE GRID

Most of us take for granted the miles and miles of transmission lines that interconnect to keep energy flowing 24/7. For Hoosier Energy, one critical component for serving member co-ops is ensuring the strength and resiliency of its transmission tie lines (also called interconnection points). Transmission tie lines connect Hoosier Energy's part of the grid to other systems, allowing energy to flow both in and out of the Hoosier Energy power network.

Tie lines are like two-way streets. They allow Hoosier Energy to provide energy to maximize output, reducing the need to buy from other energy companies, and import energy onto our part of the grid. Conversely, they serve as a gateway to sell energy outside the network or bring

energy generated by Hoosier Energy to our load regardless of the transmission ownership.

The ability to transfer energy allows for faster restoration and reduced outage minutes to member co-ops.

Tie lines also provide voltage and frequency support during emergencies.

"Keeping our tie lines in working order keeps our system strong," says Chris Ware, Manager of Power Delivery Engineering. If the primary source is not available, he says, we also have emergency tie lines that can be used for restoration.

Hoosier Energy has tie lines with Duke, Indianapolis Power & Light, Vectren, Big Rivers and Ameren to ensure safe and reliable service to members. [E](#)



HE photo

GRADUATING CLASS: Hoosier Energy Safety and Training Instructor Dave Helton, right, addressed the 2018 Hoosier Energy Apprentice Training and Safety program graduates during a ceremony at French Lick.

2018 HEATS class recognized for years of training

Apprenticeship program helps graduates improve quality of cooperative service

FRENCH LICK

The Hoosier Energy Apprentice Training and Safety (HEATS) program honored the

39th graduating class on Nov. 2 at the French Lick Resort.

The training program provides line specialists and other co-op employees with specialized training that develops technical skills and safety excellence.

The 2018 class included 12 indentured apprentices and seven non-indentured employees. Line apprentices complete 576 hours of classroom instruction and 8,000 hours of on-the-job training. Indentured graduates also take four college-level courses to earn an Associate's of Applied Sciences degree from Ivy Tech.

Hoosier Energy apprentice Arron Price earned a special academic award for earning the highest grade-point average.

Hoosier Energy administers the

Hoosier Energy graduates



Cox



Price



Wilson

Dustin Cox
Electrician
Indentured

Aaron Price
Indentured

Eric Wilson
Non-Indentured

nationally recognized HEATS program through a master committee with certification by the U.S. Department of Labor and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. This program began in 1974. Since then, it has graduated 658 apprentices.

During the award ceremony Hoosier Energy Chief Executive Officer Steve Smith addressed the graduates.

"Through the years, this program has expanded and holds a special place in the

cooperative world. As graduates of the HEATS program, your role at your co-op has now expanded as you work to support and mentor those that will follow in your footsteps," said Smith.

Before the evening ended, Safety and Training Instructor Dave Helton left the graduates with parting words of wisdom.

"The most important tool that we have to use in the field is each other. Be safe so everyone goes home every night," said Helton. [EL](#)



HE photo

WINTER IS COMING: Material handlers at the Merom Generating Station work on the limestone pile as shown in this file photo. As the temperature drops, the need to prep coal and limestone before it enters the facility increases.

Preparation for winter weather, reliability

As the mercury begins to fall on the thermometer, thoughts about winter preparations begin to surface. Thankfully, Merom Generating Station began preparations weeks ago. Winter preparations began in late September and were completed in late October.

Merom Generating Station is currently at the target inventory of coal: 475,000 tons. This is 50 days' worth of coal. The generating station has been running at 75 percent capacity and expects to continue at that level through winter.

Coal agreements are hedged and in place for 2018 and 2019, securing timely delivery of coal for that period, with rates locked in. Hoosier Energy uses two sources for coal – Peabody and Sunrise corporations.

“We continue the winter prep by making sure all three de-icer tanks are full for the winter. Conveyor belts are sprayed with de-icer to keep the coal from sliding on the belts,” said Matt Deal, Material Handling Supervisor at Merom Generating Station. “This is generally done when the air temperature is below 20 degrees.”

As the cold weather approaches, supervisors keep an eye on the forecast, schedule extra material and fuel, coordinate train and truck deliveries and stay in contact with other areas of plant operations. [EL](#)

Preparing for cold weather

- » The fuels department schedules extra coal trains for December, January and February.
- » As the temperature drops, the coal mines treat the inside of the train cars so coal doesn't stick.
- » By utilizing the train coal in the freezing temperatures, we are able to keep from pushing frozen coal into the plant from the coal pile.
- » Hoosier Energy brings in clean stone limestone without the fine grind during the winter months.
- » In extreme cold temperatures, the stone pile is manned with the excavator to feed stone into FGD 24/7 until temperatures are manageable for normal operation.

Training helps build leadership skills

Program through Bell Institute brings consistency to obtain, train and keep great employees

When most leaders talk about success factors for their organizations, “people” are often at or near the top of the list. Business leaders innately understand the importance of hiring great people, retaining great people and building their people. Yet in practice, consistent employee development often falls to the wayside in both good and difficult business climates. The Bell Leadership Institute brings much needed consistency to obtaining, training and keeping great employees.

Hoosier Energy recently conducted a Bell Institute Achievers Model three-day workshop at the Bloomington Headquarters with 23 people in attendance. This included participants from several member co-ops as well as Hoosier Energy. Sessions were led by Chris Blunk, Vice President Corporate Services, and Jon Bobbitt, Senior Human Resources Business Partner of Hoosier Energy, as both have been certified as Bell Institute training/presenters.

“Jon and I have both participated in the Bell Leadership series in order to become certified presenters for the institute,” said Blunk. [EL](#)



HE photo

ACHIEVING THROUGH LEARNING: Hoosier Energy and member cooperative employees attended a three-day workshop to improve their leadership skills. Standing, Hoosier Energy Senior Human Resource Business Partner Jon Bobbitt helped conduct the course with Vice President Corporate Services Chris Blunk (not shown).

What the training entails

» The first two days of the conference are spent looking at the attributes of great leaders as well as attributes of poor leaders. At the end of the second day, participants are given their feedback from the surveys.

» The third day is spent reviewing results and creating an action plan. Participants are encouraged to find accountability partners to help them remain focused on goals set during the program.



EDUCATION DAY – A commitment to community

Education Day (formerly called Kids Day) for the Monroe County Fall Festival was held on Friday, Sept. 21 in Ellettsville. Hoosier Energy offered a play and learn station as part of its support of the festival.

Holly Nethery, Education Day chairwoman and Senior Billing Analyst for Hoosier Energy, said they had between 1,300 – 1,500 children and 400 – 600 adults in attendance throughout the day. Kids are mostly

second- to fifth-graders. The festival day offers many booths with educational subjects for the kids to stop and enjoy.

Around 30 groups participated in this year's event, with topics ranging from fire protection safety to reptiles and other animals.

Next year's Education Day will take place on Sept. 20, 2019.



Falling for the beauty of autumn

The transition from fall to winter always happens too fast. In late October, the leaves had vibrant orange and yellow hues alongside these high-voltage lines in South Central Indiana REMC service territory.