



Inside

Page 4

Board Report - November/
December

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OMPA is a wholesale power company owned by 42 municipal electric utilities. OMPA provides economies of scale in power generation and related services to support community-owned electric utilities. The members of OMPA serve approximately 250,000 Oklahomans. This publication is issued by OMPA as authorized by the OMPA General Manager. 425 copies have been prepared and distributed at a cost of \$700. [74 O.S. § 3105(B)]

Happy Retirement
Page 7



outlet

news from your Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority

SPP sets new winter peak load

The Southwest Power Pool – the regional market that all OMPA members participate in – recorded a new all-time winter record for peak load on Dec. 22.

SPP's new electricity use winter record exceeded 47,000 megawatts, topping the previous record of 43,661, which had been set in 2021. SPP was able to meet the new peak, but did issue an EEA Level 1 alert, due to the higher-than-forecast load and generator availability. That alert does not require conservation of energy, but does put the region on notice about the challenge of fulfilling reserve obligations at the time.

SPP oversees the bulk electric grid and

wholesale power market for 17 states in the central part of the U.S., including Oklahoma.

If there is a further reserves emergency in the region, SPP, moves to EEA Level 2 and EEA Level 3 events. In the event of a Level 2, the grid is to a point where SPP can no longer provide expected energy requirements and procedures are implemented that may include interruption to service. At Level 3, reserves are below the minimum and SPP may implement a load interruption process.

For more information on SPP and its emergency alert process, visit its website at spp.org.

Electrifying The Fleet



Thanks to a grant from the Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG), the Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority was able to recently add another electric vehicle to its company fleet. It is a 2022 Model 3 Tesla. The vehicle has a battery range of about 270 miles on a full charge and was approximately 45 percent funded by the grant from ACOG, which is comprised of local governments that include 47 cities and 4 counties and whose mission is to improve the quality of life in Central Oklahoma. For more on ACOG, go to acogok.org.

November/December 2022 - Vol. 37 No. 6

Committee to review changes to programs



OMPA staff will be recommending changes to several rebate programs offered by member cities and towns at the next Energy Services Meeting, expected to be held sometime in early 2023.

The Authority offers two rebate programs that customers of members can take advantage of: the Demand and Energy Efficiency Programs (DEEP) and the Ways I Save Electricity (WISE) program.

DEEP offers rebates for projects like lighting upgrades and other energy-efficient equipment. In recent years, it has only applied to organizations like



public schools, churches and municipal governments. However, the Energy Services Committee may consider a recommendation that opens DEEP rebates back up to all customers, with a cap on the overall award amount.

The WISE rebate program offers customers a chance to earn a rebate

for heat pumps and ceiling insulation. New industry standards may require a change in the qualifications for rebates. The committee may also consider adding an energy audit – which is already required of the ceiling insulation rebates – to the requirements for a heat pump rebate.

City Update

Expansion planned for Perry company



Officials from The Toro Company recently announced the company will be expanding its Perry, Okla., manufacturing facility, home to Ditch Witch and other leading construction brands.

The move is expected to bring up to 100 new jobs to the rural community and expand its current building by an additional 200,000 square feet.

The Toro Company, based in Bloomington, Minn., is the parent company of Ditch Witch, which first

started operations in Perry more than 80 years ago. The expansion further reinforces the company’s long-standing commitment to the Perry community and the State of Oklahoma, and positions the company to support future growth.

“Across our global manufacturing facilities, we continue to focus on driving operational efficiencies and investing in automation and capacity to better serve our customers,” said Rick Rodier, group vice president of

construction, contractor and residential businesses at The Toro Company. “This investment in the Perry facility expands our manufacturing capacity, reinforces our commitment to the community and the many customers we serve around the world, and ultimately helps us continue to produce the world-class products Ditch Witch is known for well into the future.”

As part of The Toro Company’s expansion agreement, the company was awarded \$6 million through the Business Expansion Incentive Program by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce. The funds will be used for road improvements in front of the existing and expanded facilities.

“The expansion of The Toro Company facility in Perry is a great win for Oklahoma,” said Oklahoma Gov.

Continued on Page 3

Perry: Continued from Page 2

Kevin Stitt. “I am proud of partners like the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, Greater Oklahoma City Chamber and the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for their conjoined effort in continuing Oklahoma’s economic development while adding new jobs to Perry.”

Ditch Witch specializes in the manufacturing of underground construction equipment and is a leading source for trenchers, horizontal directional drilling systems, mini skid steers and more.

“This is an exciting day for central Oklahoma,” said Roy Williams, president & CEO of the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber. “Our mission is to grow the economy of all parts of central Oklahoma and what is good for Perry is good for the entire region. We were excited to work on this project which puts capital investment and new, quality jobs in a community that has long focused on having a strong manufacturing economy.”

The growth of operations in Perry will allow the company to increase efficiencies and improve its production to better serve its worldwide customer base.

“Growth is so important to show our commitment to operational excellence,” said Kevin Carpenter, vice president, global operations and integrated supply chain at The Toro Company. “It is such an exciting time for the company and we are proud to invest in the Perry facility to further our operational efficiencies that ultimately will better enable us to deliver our great product made by great people to our customers.”

Ditch Witch traces its roots back to 1902 when Carl Malzhan opened a blacksmith shop with his sons in Perry. Its first production trencher came off the assembly line in 1949, and since that time, Ditch Witch has been the largest employer in Perry. Today, the company employs more than 1,600 people in the community. The Ditch Witch compact trencher has twice been named “one of the 100 best American-made products in the world” by Fortune magazine.

“The relationship between Ditch Witch and our community has been a massive win for both sides for decades now,” said Oklahoma Sen. Chuck Hall. “We are thrilled that The Toro Company and Ditch Witch see the business value of Perry and its workforce with this expansion announcement. We look

forward to deepening this already strong partnership for years to come.”

Larry Pannell, city manager of Perry, highlighted the partnerships and teamwork that helped push this critical project to the finish line.

“Economic development in smaller communities is often challenging, especially in the economic climate we are all currently experiencing. However, with the right entities working together with one singular focus, beneficial progress can be achieved for all parties. That is the case with the Ditch Witch expansion project now underway in Perry,” said Pannell.

“With the support and work of dedicated parties, the expansion is moving forward. Relationships make projects happen and with the coordinated effort of the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, and The Toro Company, the parent company of Ditch Witch and its subsidiaries, this important project is coming to fruition. On behalf of the Perry City Council and the residents of Perry, we appreciate the support and belief that Perry is the best place for this project to land.”



Ditch Witch received a rebate for energy efficiency upgrades as part of the Demand and Energy Efficiency Program (DEEP) in 2016.

Preparing to make the year ahead a success

As we start a new year, I want to wish all of you a safe, productive, and prosperous new year. I have no doubt we all will face several challenges during the coming year, but I also have no doubt we will all be up to the task.

For OMPA, I expect 2023 to be one in which we continue to plan on how to react to the ever-changing requirements placed on us by FERC,

General Manager's Report

David W. Osburn



NERC, and SPP. Regional and national events are shaping the electric power industry like never before, and at a faster clip. I am fortunate to have a great team of talented individuals here at OMPA to help guide us through what is ahead.

And, as always, our number one focus is serving our member cities, so please don't hesitate to reach out when you need us.

Board Reports



Highlights From November 2022 Board of Directors Meeting



- Recognized Comanche's Chuck Ralls for 5 years on the Board of Directors
- Approved Board meeting schedule for 2023

Highlights From December 2022 Board of Directors Meeting

- Approved CUP Interim Review Award to Comanche Public Works Authority with four awards valued at 3.5 points
- Approved CUP Recertification Award to Laverne Public Works Authority with two awards valued at 1.5 points
- Reviewed and approved new OMPA Purchasing Policy
- Approved OMPA staff performance goal results for 2022

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled to be held at 10 a.m. on January 12 at OMPA offices in Edmond.

5 Years On The Board



Comanche City Manager Chuck Ralls was acknowledged during the November Board of Directors meeting for reaching five years on the OMPA Board. Ralls is pictured in the middle, along with Board Chair Homer Nicholson (left) and OMPA CFO John Vansant.

OMPA website gets redesign

The Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority has a newly-redesigned website that can be found at www.ompacom.com.

The new design is meant to not only update the site’s visual appeal, but make navigation throughout the site easier and more efficient.

OMPA’s website can be used as a tool to keep up-to-date on news and events from the Authority. It has basic historical information about OMPA and the cities and towns it serves, as well as the 11-person Board of Directors. It also has information on rebate programs and includes access to online auditing offerings. Member customers can also fill out a form to apply for an in-home energy audit through the website.

There is a “careers” section on the website, as well as a new spot to find open bids related to the authority.

The “Members Only” section is still on the website, where members can find information related to program guidelines and other guidance on new technology assembled by OMPA staff, among other information. It requires a password to access. Members needing the password should contact someone in Member Services.

City Update

Three running in mayor’s race in Edmond

With the candidate filing period concluding in December, Edmond’s 2023 election landscape is set. Incumbent Edmond Mayor Darrell Davis drew three challengers in his bid for reelection, but one withdrew before the end of the week. That leaves Rich Hess, the owner of an employee benefits consulting agency called Trilogy Alliance, and Brian Shellem, the president of Advanced Automotive Equipment, as the remaining opponents to Davis.

Meanwhile, businessman Tom



Robins will face Ashley Bradley, a senior engineering technician at Gulfport Energy Corporation, for Edmond’s open Ward 1 City Council seat.

In the City Council Ward 2 race, longtime Edmond Planning Commission Chairman Barry Moore will compete against Judy Rau, who worked 19 years for the City of Oklahoma City.

Because the race for mayor will consist of three candidates, there will

Continued on Page 6

OMPA Lineman Training



A pair of linemen with the OMPA Field Services Department were recently acknowledged for gaining years of training through Municipal Electric Services of Oklahoma (MESO). At left is Cody Winsor completing his second year and, at right, is Chris Christensen completing his third year.

Edmond: Continued from Page 5

be a Feb. 14 primary election. Under Edmond's electoral rules, however, even if one candidate earns a majority of the primary vote, the top two vote earners will compete in a runoff election on April 4 no matter what.

Because the open Ward 1 and Ward 2 City Council races and the EPS District 3 seat all drew only two candidates, each of those elections will be on the April 4 general election ballot. Edmond residents from all wards are allowed to vote in the municipality's general elections.

Davis, 63, was first elected mayor in May 2021 when he received about

62 percent of the city's vote against homebuilder Nathan Walters. Prior to being elected mayor, Davis served nearly 10 years as Edmond's Ward 3 councilman. He was first appointed to the Edmond City Council in November 2011 and was re-elected to four-year terms in May 2013 and May 2017.

In addition to owning Trilogy



Darrel Davis

Alliance, Rich Hess, 54, also serves as a board member on the Force 50 Foundation, which aims to develop a communication and coordination plan linking all resources assisting Oklahoma veterans. Hess is also the vice president of Healthcare Highways.

Aside from Brian Shellem's LinkedIn, he does not appear to maintain an online presence. Shellem, 48, was one of six parents who filed a lawsuit against Edmond Public Schools in September 2021 that sought and obtained a temporary injunction to prevent EPS from enforcing COVID-19 quarantining protocols.

City Update

Council recognizes retiring clerk



With Christmas week approaching, the City of Marlow commenced its monthly meeting with a presentation to Betty Mackey for her years of service as city clerk to the City of Marlow.

Mackey retired as city clerk after 12 and half years.

Mayor Jeff Prater presented Mackey with a plaque for her dedicated years of service to the citizens and the employees of the City of Marlow from 2010-2022.

“Thank you so much for your years of service,” he said. “We appreciate your work.”

Mackey said she became city clerk in 2010, right after the ice storm and she’s grateful for the years she had with the city.

“With all the people that I worked

with and met — I couldn’t replace that,” she said. “Working with the Mayor and Council, it was the best job I’ve ever had.”

Mackey said she was born in Marlow and it was an honor to serve the city she grew up in.

The meeting opened with discussion for Resolution 479 to adjust rates and fee for services for electric.

McPherson said last year when they adjusted the rates, there was a clerical error in there about how the evaluation of the rates were.

“This is just to clarify it back to the way it was,” he said.

The board approved the resolution.

Next the board opened discussion to review the electric rates.

McPherson said the rate change



from December 2021 would suffice for the coming year and recommended no rate change.

- Duncan Banner

City Update

Group offers incentives for new residents



Those looking to move to Stephens County now have more reasons too.

“Move Duncan” is a talent relocation incentive being offered by the Duncan Area Economic Development Foundation (DAEDF) in partnership with the local business community to attract workers.

“Move Duncan” provides qualified individuals \$4,000 when they choose to move to Stephens County, Oklahoma.

The incentive is paid over a 3-year period, with \$2,000 provided as home closing assistance, then \$1,000 per year for 2 years after.

Other Eligibility and program details:

- Job must pay a minimum of \$50k/year with full benefits, exceptions exist for certain industries of high need.
- Qualifying home must be

purchased within Stephens County.

- Candidate cannot currently live or work in Stephens County.
- Candidate must work remotely or in identified industries.
- Candidate must sign letter of intent to live in Stephens County for at least four years.
- Accepted candidate must move to Stephens County within six months of being accepted or reapply for consideration.

“The workforce shortage is a challenge across the country. “Move Duncan” is the newest program in a series of efforts by Duncan to recruit and retain talent in Stephens County,” said Lyle Roggow, President and CEO of the Duncan Area Economic Development Foundation.

DEED board awards grants to projects

The Board of Directors for the American Public Power Association's (APPA) Demonstration of Energy & Efficiency Developments (DEED) program met in Burlington, Vermont, from October 27-28 to review open projects and allocate new funding. Of the 13 projects submitted for review, six projects across four states were awarded grants totaling nearly \$600,000.

OMPA Director of Member Services Jennifer Rogers Smith serves on the DEED board.

Every OMPA member is eligible to apply for grants or internship funding through the DEED program. The next application deadline for both is Feb. 15. There are typically two applications periods each year.

The largest grants awarded \$125,000 each to Wakefield Municipal Gas & Light Department (Massachusetts) for its Energy Management Park and Educational



Project, Stowe Electric Department (Vermont) for its Deployment of Distribution Automation Technologies Pilot Project, and Taunton Municipal Lighting Plant (Massachusetts) for its Deployment of Distribution Automation Technologies Pilot Project.

Smaller grants were also awarded for the Northern California Power Agency's (California) Hydrogen Project Development Plan, CDE Lightband's (Tennessee) Artificial Intelligence Enabled Visual Surveillance Demonstration Project, and Anaheim Public Utilities'

(California) Sustainability Education Center.

When reviewing proposals, the DEED program considers criteria including the project's applicability to other public power utilities, the development of new equipment or methodologies, the timeliness of potential results, and overall customer value.

In addition to the project grants, the board approved three Lineworker & Technical Education Scholarship applications for \$2,000 each and five student internships for \$4,000 each.

City Update

City gets update about its rates

Pawhuska city councilors received a briefing Dec. 6 from the chief financial officer of the Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority about the city's current rates for electricity service, as well as possible rate increases. The city of Pawhuska is a member of the OMPA.

The City Council's agenda for the meeting did not include an action item, and no representative of city government either proposed specific electricity rate increases, or suggested any timeline for trying to enact any increases.



John Vansant, CFO of the OMPA, told Pawhuska councilors that he had done a cost-of-service study that examined the equitable allocation of power generation costs among all classes of customers. He said the city of Pawhuska had asked for an examination of its electricity rates.

Vansant said Pawhuska government, based on financial data for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022, needed for its electricity billing to bring in about \$4,609,000. He

said the current rate structure brought in some \$279,000 less. He said the rate of under-collection was about 6 percent, and residential accounts were slightly more under-collected than commercial accounts.

Vansant said that rate-increase recommendations he gave the City Council would probably bring in about \$200,000 more, thus decreasing the level of under-collection. He indicated that, under his proposal, residential accounts would remain slightly under-collected.

Vansant added that Pawhuska's current electric rates are not particularly bad.

"I think they're about average for OMPA," he said.

Pawhuska city government's consideration of its electricity rate structure comes at a time when it recently raised trash collection rates marginally.

- Pawhuska Journal Capital

Groups urge the DOE to get involved in solving supply chain issues for electric industry

The Department of Energy (DOE) should use Defense Production Act (DPA) authorities to prioritize distribution transformers, large power transformers, and other critical grid components ahead of other technologies, and it should act quickly to alleviate the most acute supply chain challenge with distribution transformers, the American Public Power Association (APPA), the Edison Electric Institute (EEI), and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), said in joint comments submitted to DOE on Nov. 30.

The comments responded to a DOE request for information (RFI) that sought input from stakeholders on how DOE should use its authority under Title III of the DPA to address supply chain issues for clean energy technologies and distribution transformers.

“Recent surveys show our members are waiting longer than ever for transformers of all sizes, conductors, meters, circuit breakers, and other products,” the trade groups noted. “Industry cannot solve this challenge alone and thus we are pleased to see the government may use its authority under the DPA to address challenges created by shortages of transformers and other key components of the energy grid.”

“We respectfully urge DOE to prioritize distribution transformers, large power transformers, and other critical grid components ahead of the other technologies considered in the RFI,” APPA, NRECA and EEI said.

“Until we can address the shortages and supply chain challenges that are directly impacting reliability, we may not be able to accomplish many of the goals this administration has laid out for advancing clean



technologies or expanding electrification,” they said.

“Most urgently, in the near-term, we urge DOE to act quickly to alleviate distribution transformer shortages, as this is the most acute supply chain challenge the electric industry is facing,” the groups said.

“We also ask DOE to establish longer-term efforts dedicated to supporting expanded domestic manufacturing capacity for large power transformers and other grid components that may take longer to address but are nonetheless critical to grid operations and therefore national security.”

The RFI comments also note that DPA authorities could be used for financial assistance, loan guarantees, and purchase commitments for transformer manufacturers that would help address labor shortages and the availability of materials that are hampering manufacturers’ ability to increase production.

APPA and the electric trades

augmented their comments on DPA with a letter for action on Capitol Hill. The electric trades, along with building trade organizations, recently sent a joint letter to Congressional Appropriations leadership requesting funding for DPA.

The groups request that Congress appropriate \$1 billion this year for the implementation of DPA authorities to specifically address the supply chain crisis for electric distribution transformers.

“Throughout 2022, the electric sector and representatives from residential and commercial building sectors have been calling attention to the unprecedented supply chain challenges both industries have been facing in procuring equipment used to maintain and grow the electric grid,” wrote APPA President and CEO Joy Ditto and leaders of the other groups. DPA authorities should be prioritized to immediately address increased production of distribution transformers.

City Update

New airport runway celebrated



The Watonga Regional Airport hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony in November in honor of the airport's new 4,000-foot runway.

This project consisted of reconstructing of the existing 4,000 ft by 60 ft runway in its current location to meet Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) standards. Also included in the project was the installation of new LED runway edge lights and an obstruction survey of the area to develop new instrument approach procedures that will ensure the airport has 24/7 access in all weather conditions. The total project cost was just under \$2.8M and was funded by grants entirely from the FAA due to ARPA funds provided by Congress.

Oklahoma Secretary of Transportation Tim Gatz has been active in the support of the Aeronautics Commission's aggressive efforts to improve the quality of infrastructure throughout the 108 public-use airports located within the Oklahoma Airport

System.

"This airport has a vibrant community of based aircraft including a based agricultural spraying operation along with a recently renewed fuel farm. With this completed runway project the city is now set for growth opportunities, and with aviation and aerospace as the state's second largest economic engine, Watonga is positioned to help further the state's aero commerce and tourism efforts," said Sec. Gatz.

In addition to the ribbon cutting attendees heard from local and state dignitaries including Mayor Bill Seitter, Representative Mike Dobrinski, and State Director of Aeronautics Grayson Ardies.

Watonga Regional Airport has a \$1.2 million annual economic impact and the airport is home to several aviation agriculture businesses along with being used by numerous oil and gas operations as well as other local entities.

Much of the state's population of

almost four million is focused in the Tulsa and Oklahoma City metropolitan areas with the remainder residing in smaller communities scattered across the state. Without the ability to support its services by air, Oklahoma Highway Patrol (OHP) and other first responders would not be able to provide effective law enforcement.

Many smaller hospitals are not able to have specialty doctors on staff. Oklahoma Heart Hospital is affiliated with many towns throughout Oklahoma. Doctors from this hospital and many others routinely fly throughout the state to see their patients, including in the Watonga area. This airport allows doctors to fly to patients who would not have otherwise had the ability to receive their care locally.

Senator Darcy Jech said, "Oklahoma Aeronautics and the FAA continue to show their support of the Oklahoma Airport System by investing in aviation infrastructure. This airport is something the citizens of Watonga can be proud of for years to come."

Representative Mike Dobrinski said, "As the Representative for Blaine County, this new runway is necessary for the continued growth of the aviation community throughout western Oklahoma. I am confident this will bring lift to the local economy by bringing new opportunities and better infrastructure to the area."

City Update

Local officials may take over highway



edmond electric
The POWER of Edmond

Edmond officials are in preliminary discussions with Oklahoma Department of Transportation staff on transitioning portions of U.S. Route 66 and U.S. Route 77 to arterial city roads.

East 2nd Street and South Broadway, while two of the busiest streets in Edmond, are technically state highways Route 66 and Route 77, respectively.

"The discussion we have with ODOT is, 'is there a future where they do a full reconstruct of (Route) 77 and 66 to our standard and once they do that we'll take it on as a city street, which means that alleviates them from ongoing (operations and maintenance) costs, but we get a street that's more conducive to economic development,'" Edmond City Manager Scot Rigby said.

Due to the state's jurisdiction over those roads, there are added bureaucratic steps and decisions that must be made prior to any changes to those routes.

APPA details how it can help implement DOE Cybersecurity Grant and Technical Assistance Program

There are a number of ways in which the American Public Power Association (APPA) can help the Department of Energy successfully implement a Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity Grant and Technical Assistance Program including assisting in identifying solutions as well as potential pathways for increasing information sharing with small- and medium-sized public power utilities, APPA said.

APPA made its Dec. 19 comments in response to a request for information (RFI) issued by the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response (CESER) to inform its implementation of the Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity Grant and Technical Assistance Program.

In its comments, APPA noted that public power utilities are eligible entities for the new program, with over 1,000 of these utilities likely to fall into one or more of the priority categories of: (1) having limited cybersecurity resources; (2) owning assets critical to the reliability of the bulk power system; or (3) owning defense critical electric infrastructure (as defined in section 215A(a) of the Federal Power Act.

APPA said that along with awarding grants directly to owners and operators to address individual entity needs, DOE should also consider working with trade associations and other trusted partners around technical assistance options and needs.

"The needs of eligible utilities are diverse -- some entities are in need of technical assistance on simply how to begin or move forward with basic programs, whereas others are more advanced and may be in need of assistance (financing and/or technical) in implementing technology or other cybersecurity solutions," APPA said.



APPA "presents a robust pathway for assisting large swaths of these communities, especially for those whose cybersecurity preparedness is not as mature as others," it said.

For smaller utilities -- including many public power utilities that make up the majority of eligible utility entities for this new grant program -- cybersecurity can be a daunting task, APPA pointed out.

"Many public power utilities have limited resources to put toward cyber services, technology deployments, additional cyber staff, or to increase participation in threat intelligence information sharing programs. Moreover, most public power utilities are distribution only utilities, whereas most existing government cybersecurity resources are focused on the bulk electric system (BES)."

The program's focus on small- and medium-sized electric utilities, particularly public power and rural electric cooperative utilities, is a welcome development, the trade group told DOE.

In addition, APPA encouraged DOE to work with trade associations to reach their smaller members to ensure they are engaged and have clear pathways for resources available under the program.

APPA pointed out that it has worked with DOE through cooperative agreements on efforts like increasing adoption of cybersecurity solutions for operational technologies. This work has included the production of templates and guidance to assist in the

adoption of these types of technologies, such as data sharing considerations.

APPA went on to note that tools and resources that are specifically intended for small distribution utilities are more likely to be utilized. "Therefore, it would be beneficial for DOE to consider pathways for creating, updating, or promoting these types of materials and resources."

It would also be beneficial, when it comes to public power utilities, for DOE to consider ways it could partner with the Department of Homeland Security to identify tools and resources that DHS has already created for State, Local, Tribal, or Territorial communities that could be promoted, updated, and utilized by public power utilities, APPA told DOE.

"APPA is very interested in assisting and promoting such an effort within its membership, including bringing members to the table to help shape such products."

These efforts would need to be complementary, not in place of, individual grant awards to qualifying utility owners and operators to implement solutions they have individually identified, the public power trade group said. "Access to a trusted community-focused forum where best practices can be confidentially shared and learned from would be very valuable for these communities."

APPA also said the program will provide opportunities for smaller utilities to lean further in on cybersecurity issues to the benefit of their communities and the nation. "The ease of the process and the ability for smaller utilities to meet program requirements will be enormous factors in how much traction this new program is able to generate. To that end, DOE should also seek opportunities to limit the application of cost share or compliance reporting requirements, as these obligations may place an undue administrative burden on smaller utilities and be a significant barrier to participation."

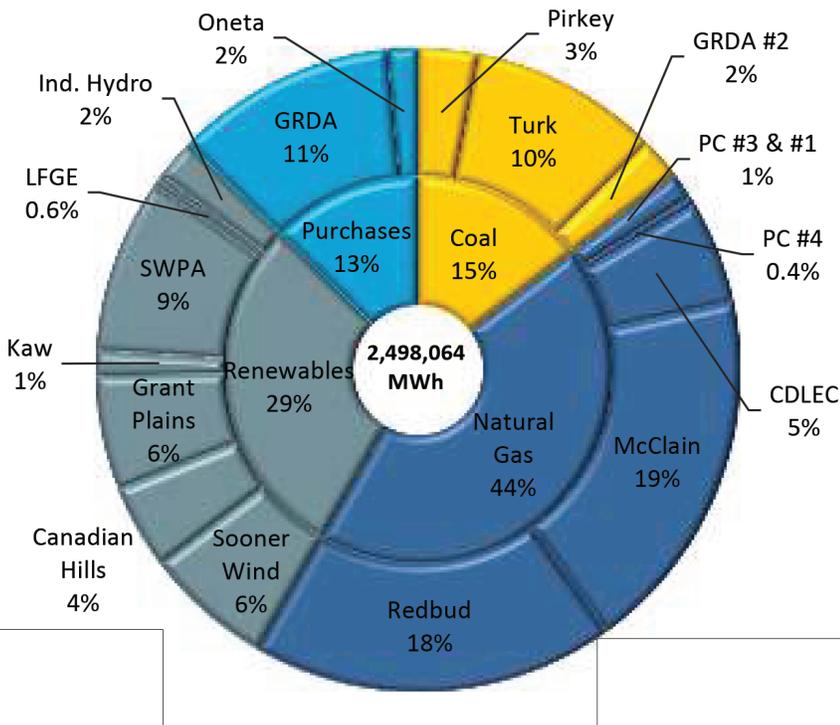


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Generation Mix Through November 2022



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