



**Upcoming Events**

April 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 17, 24, 2009

**Consumer Confidence Report Workshops:** *Alta, Atlantic, Ankeny, Coralville, Manchester, Mason City* (see online calendar or brochure for exact dates, locations)

Register/more information:

<http://www.iamu.org/calendar/>

April 15, 2009

**Natural Gas Fire Control Workshop**

Register/more information:

<http://www.iamu.org/calendar/>

April 21 — 23, 2009

**Diesel Generation Workshop:** *Village West Resort, Spirit Lake Resort and on-site at utilities*

Register/more information:

<http://www.iamu.org/calendar/>

April 24, 2009

**IAMU Demand Response Workshop/Webinar**

Register/more information:

<http://www.iamu.org/calendar/>

April 28, 2009

**IAMU/ISWEP Green Roof Workshop**

More information:

<http://www.iowastormwater.org>

May 1, 2009

**Competent Person Workshop**

Register/more information:

<http://www.iamu.org/calendar/>

(click "May 2009")

**IAMU plan will improve member water/ww efficiency**



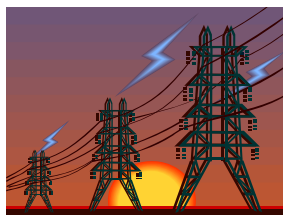
◆ An IAMU proposal that aggregates the interests of members in motor and pump efficiency has won preliminary approval by the Iowa Finance Authority and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for a State Revolving Fund loan (SRF).

In an initial filing on behalf of some 30 members, IAMU identified motor and pump replacements potentially costing nearly \$1.6 million dollars. Terms of financing include twenty percent forgivable loan, a three percent rate on the balance with a one percent loan origination fee and 0.025 percent annual financing fee on the outstanding principal. In addition, IAMU will seek other funding to offset the cost of the engineering evaluation and will assist utilities in their applications for utility rebates.

Some of the federal economic stimulus funds are coming to Iowa through the State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF). The SRF program is used to finance water and wastewater infrastructure. The stimulus funds come with the caveat that they need to be spent quickly and that 20 percent of the funds go to "green projects." The IAMU proposal attempts to help spread green infrastructure funds across the state by aggregating member interest in replacing older motors, installing variable frequency drive technology, where appropriate, and capturing lighting and HVAC efficiencies. These measures do not involve excavation or construction, so the evaluation process is expected to be relatively simple. Aggregating many projects also has the advantage of allowing small projects to be eligible for SRF funding and it streamlines the financing by including the projects in a single application.

A second round of applications is expected in June. If your utility is interested, contact IAMU Water Services Coordinator Jill Soenen at [jsoenen@iamu.org](mailto:jsoenen@iamu.org) or 800-810-4268.

**Presentation/webinar for electric demand proposal**



**COOPER** Power Systems

◆ Combining new technology with municipal joint action could reduce load on your municipal electric system during peak demand periods in the summer, through a new IAMU proposal.

The proposal will be presented during a meeting hosted by IAMU and Cooper/Cannon April 24 at IAMU's Training & Office Complex. For those who cannot attend the workshop in person, a webinar will allow them to still be involved.

Cooper /Cannon conducted a study for IAMU and identified an opportunity for significant load reduction based on the ability of our members, banning together, to reduce load during peaks on hot summer days. They have proposed a joint Demand Response system (previously called "Load Management") that makes it easy and cost-effective for IAMU members to participate. If there is sufficient interest, IAMU will proceed with the joint program with as few as 20 – 25 participating utilities.

More information about this Demand Response Initiative, and a registration form for the workshop/webinar is available on the IAMU website, [www.iamu.org](http://www.iamu.org) (look for the links under "Hot News" on the home page). Or access the information through the Calendar/Registration page at [www.iamu.org](http://www.iamu.org) (click on "Calendar/Registrations").

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### Midwest study warns of cap-and-trade impact

◆ A group called Midwest Consumer Utilities has released a study which says certain forms of a cap-and-trade policy for greenhouse gas emissions could create “alarming economic impacts” for the utility industry.



### Cap-and-trade debate

The group consists of representatives from the Indiana Municipal Power Agency, Madison (WI) Gas and Electric Co., Missouri Joint Municipal Electric Utility Commission, Missouri River Energy Services, Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency and WPPI Energy.

The study projects potential rate impact of various cap-and-trade implementations. It claims that in seven Midwestern states studied, the average rate increase for consumers could be up to 79% from 2012 to 2030 under a program that uses a 100% auction method which does not refund auction revenues back to customers.

In addition . . .

### Senate nixes cap-and-trade as part of budget bill

◆ The U.S. Senate rejected a move that would have made it easier for a cap-and-trade policy to be passed as part of climate change legislation in the federal budget bill.

Sen. Mike Johanns, R-Neb., introduced an amendment that required 60 votes in the Senate to pass any cap-and-trade legislation. Plans had called for attaching the legislation to the budget bill with the process known as “budget reconciliation,” which requires only a simple majority for passage, and limits debate. Sen Johanns’ amendment passed by a vote of 67-31.

## Alton, Mapleton are now municipal gas operators



◆ Two IAMU members joined the ranks of municipal gas system operators in Iowa April 1.

Alton Municipal Utilities and the City of Mapleton both took control of their communities’ gas systems after purchasing them from MidAmerican Energy Company. Both Dale Oltmans, Administrator of Alton Municipal Utilities and Karla Uhl, Mapleton City Clerk, reported smooth transitions. The systems are nearly identical in size, with both having slightly more than 550 meters, and both serving all residential and commercial customers in their respective communities.

Alton Municipal Utilities also has a gas line that runs to nearby IAMU member Orange City, a community that has been a major partner with Alton in the municipalization process. “This would never have been such an easy process without the help of our friends at Orange City,” said Oltmans, who reported Orange City provided the necessary training for Alton Municipal Utilities employees who will be working with the municipally-managed gas system. “Orange City did their training, and then all the documentation was sent to IAMU for approval,” said Oltmans. Three employees who maintain water, sewer and street services in Alton will take over operation of the gas system. They will operate as on-call employees for the gas system with Orange City employees set to help should any serious situation arise. Orange City will also provide system maintenance and repair. Alton will handle meter reading and billing.



Mapleton’s gas crew members are ready to maintain the system that is now municipally controlled. From left are: Owen Zediker, Marshall Gosler and Mike Hahn. The three men also serve Mapleton’s water, wastewater and street departments.

Alton’s process toward acquiring the gas system began in 2002, with a ballot put to the vote in April of 2003. A 78% approval was achieved.

In Mapleton, the municipal vote was passed in April, 2002, though the idea had been discussed off and on for a number of years by various city councils, according to Uhl. Like Alton, employees who work in the water, wastewater and street departments will also handle the gas system. Uhl said her city’s first round of gas meter reading and billing will come in May.

## “Red Flags” Rule enforcement will begin May 1

◆ IAMU members are reminded that enforcement of the Federal Trade Commission’s “Red Flags” Rule begins May 1. The enforcement date was pushed back to May 1 from the original date of November 1, 2008. The Rule officially went into effect January 1, 2008, but a grace period for enforcement was in place.



The Red Flags Rule was developed pursuant to the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions (FACT) Act of 2003. Under the Rule, financial institutions and creditors with covered accounts must have identity theft prevention programs to identify, detect, and respond to patterns, practices, or specific activities that could indicate identity theft. Municipal utilities are considered creditors due to their customer accounts, and are included in the Rule.

IAMU conducted a series of workshops last fall (before the delay of enforcement was announced) to assist members in establishing an identity theft program that satisfies the FTC requirement. **Members who are still in need of establishing a plan should contact IAMU to obtain a Needs Assessment Form to help them identify areas of their systems where customer personal information could be vulnerable. IAMU also offers a template to help in establishing a plan. Contact Sandy Longfellow at 800-810-4268 or [slongfellow@iamu.org](mailto:slongfellow@iamu.org).**

A detailed guide about the Red Flags Rule is available on the FTC website at: <http://www2.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/business/idtheft/bus23.shtm>