



Upcoming Events

December 8, 2009

Construction Site Inspector Training (stormwater).

Register/more information here

December 16 & 17, 2009

RESCHEDULED

Water Operator Lab Workshop.

Note: Registration is full

**IAMU members are also
OEI energy grant recipients**



◆ **In addition to the grant award to IAMU, the OEI has also awarded grants to several IAMU**

members, including: Cedar Falls Utilities for infrared/thermal imaging to identify properties most in need of energy assistance; City of Grinnell for installation of energy efficient structural materials and appliances in municipal properties; McGregor Municipal Utilities for installation of variable speed well pumps; City of Maquoketa for installation of a wind turbine; Waverly Light & Power for installation of a solar panel array (grid tie system); and City of Woodbine for installation of HVAC improvements in municipal properties

For a complete listing of all OEI grants awarded, click [here](#) and look for the award category links.

IAMU dynamic pricing project receives OEI grant



◆ **Iowa's Office of Energy Independence has awarded IAMU \$210,000 to conduct a dynamic pricing project.** The project includes work by two leading rate experts: Kansas-based Jerry McKenzie, who is well known to many IAMU members, and John Kelly, who spent much of his career as chief economist with the American Public Power Association. Their role in the project will be to design time of use rate tariffs intended to enable both customers and utilities to reduce the cost of electrical service by switching energy use to times when the cost of service is relatively low.

The grant-funded project also includes the installation of 1,000 smart meters in homes and businesses in Algona, Spencer, and Waverly. The municipal utilities in these communities will implement time of use rates for some of the customers with smart meters and evaluate the pricing methods that best achieve the desired benefits for the customer and the utility.



Notice of the award comes after IAMU began gearing up for another grant-funded project. Last month, the Department of Energy selected IAMU's proposal for demand response (DR) using smart thermostats. This project, which emerged from a highly competitive selection process, involves the installation of 32,000 smart thermostats and switches to reduce peak loads and improve energy efficiency in 75 municipal utilities in three states. The grant of \$5 million will pay about 40 percent of the cost of the \$12.5 million project. Besides the installation of smart thermostats, it also includes deployment of a robust utility operating system and communications services which, among other capabilities, allows the customer to automate response to prices. For example, a customer can decide to automatically raise the air conditioning temperature from 75 degrees to 80 degrees whenever the price of electricity exceeds a certain level.

The U.S. is making an unprecedented and transformative investment in smart grid technology. On the customer end of this broad effort, demand response will compete directly with supply-side options and electricity will be sold at rates that reflect the cost to produce, transmit, and deliver it at different times of the day. Although these two projects could stand on their own, together they provide all the tools necessary for municipal utilities to be leaders in efficient service to their customer owners.

Landmark energy-water legislation passes House vote

◆ **Landmark legislation that would integrate water and energy research is currently making its way through official congressional channels in Washington, D.C.**



H.R. 3598, the Energy and Water Integration Act, will ensure consideration of water intensity in the Department of Energy's energy research, development, and demonstration programs to help guarantee efficient, reliable, and sustainable delivery of energy and water resources. It would help advance energy efficiency technologies to minimize water consumption, increase

water use efficiency, utilize nontraditional water sources, consider the effects that climate change may have on water quality and quantity, and improve understanding of the energy required to provide water supplies and the water required to provide energy supplies.

The bill was passed by the House of Representatives December 1, and has now been received by the Senate, where it has been referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Introduced by Science and Technology Committee Chair Bart Gordon (D-TN), the bill is being hailed for creating a much-needed nexus requiring strategic examination of the critical water-energy connection. Advocates of the bill have pointed out that historically water efficiency has received little attention in federal policy initiatives. The bill's progress can be tracked [here](#).