



Upcoming Events

January 26 — 30, 2009
Gas “Boot Camp” OQ Training
Register/more information:
<http://www.iamu.org/calendar/>

January 28 — 30, 2009
Superintendent & Foreman’s Meeting
Register/more information:
<http://www.iamu.org/calendar/>

February 2 — 6, 2009
Watt-Hour Meter Workshops (Basic & Advanced)
Register/more information:
<http://www.iamu.org/calendar/>
(click “February 2009”)

February 10 — 11, 2009
“Think Spring” IAMU (Winter) Meeting
Courtyard by Marriott, Ankeny
Register/more information:
<http://www.iamu.org>
(look for links on the front page)

March 4 & 5, 2009
Advanced Water Treatment/ Distribution Workshops
(Register for one or both)
Register/more information:
<http://www.iamu.org/calendar/>
(click “March 2009”)

March 9 — 10, 2009
Iowa Storm Water Conference/ Iowa Water Conference
Scheman Building, Iowa State University
For more information:
<http://www.iowastormwater.org/>

Iowa Stored Energy Park matching loan gets the OK



◆ The Iowa Stored Energy Park (ISEP) has crossed another significant threshold with the approval of a \$3.2 million matching loan from The Iowa Power Fund. The fund’s board has voted to approve the money for continued development of the facility on a site near Dallas Center. The ISEP principals will now be responsible for raising their share of the matching funds, according to Kent Holst, ISEP project director, who is currently waiting to receive the full details of the agreement.

“With this vote, all of the approvals have been put into place,” he said, adding, “We already have a million and a half dollars from the U.S. Department of Energy.” The Department of Energy money, combined with the Iowa Power Fund money and matching fund dollars, will all support the next step in the process: the drilling of test wells at the site to verify the capability of the underground storage aquifer that will be the cornerstone of how ISEP will work.

ISEP is a Compressed Air Energy Storage (CAES) facility. It will utilize air stored underground at naturally occurring pressures. Stored air is released when needed to help generate energy for cities and utilities which have purchased rights to utilize it. Used as a supplement to existing energy sources, it is predicted that it will save clients millions of dollars each year by providing a consistently reliable energy source, much of it renewable, which would be available during periods of high demand. IAMU has been highly involved with the planning of ISEP, and IAMU member utilities are expected to be among the clients that will be served by ISEP.

Holst said plans for the test drilling process are already in motion, as meetings with the Department of Natural Resources (responsible for issuing drilling permits) and a geologist have been scheduled for yet this month.

More information about ISEP is available online at www.isepa.com.

New summary of telecom requirements now posted



◆ IAMU utility members that provide cable, telephone, voice-over-internet, and internet access (broadband) services are faced with a myriad of federal reporting and filing obligations.

Jim Baller and the Baller Herbst Law Group (GHLG) have written a comprehensive summary of these federal requirements.

This 19-page summary, which includes a table of reports in chronological order, is now posted for IAMU members on our website. After logging on to the "members-only" side of the IAMU website at http://www.iamu.org/_members/default.htm, follow the BHLG BBand Compliance link.

IAMU sends its sincere thanks to Jim Baller, Sean Stokes, and Casey Lide for sharing this document with our broadband members.

Think Spring!
IAMU (Winter) Meeting
February 10 — 11, 2009

Register!
www.iamu.org
(Look for the links on the front page)
IAMU members: Use your risk management coupons for registration



Legislative Reception February 10
5 — 7 p.m.
IAMU Training & Office Complex
IAMU members: Be sure to invite your legislators to attend!

IAMU's Inflatable CFL balloon available to rent



◆ Let IAMU help you promote energy efficiency in your community with its inflatable Compact Fluorescent Light bulb, available for rent by member utilities. Customer appreciation days, local school visits or energy fairs are perfect venues for this unique, attention-getting promotional item.

The balloon stands 12 feet tall and is designed for indoor or outdoor display. Your utility's signage or advertisements can be attached. Cost is \$250 per rental for the first four rentals. After four rentals, the fifth rental is free. Non-IAMU members are also eligible to rent the balloon. For more information, or to arrange rental, contact Joel Logan (jlogan@iamu.org) or Lorrie Watson (lwatson@iamu.org) at IAMU, 515-289-1999.

Have you returned your energy efficiency survey?

◆ On January 19 IAMU sent an Energy Efficiency Survey to all electric and gas utilities participating in its energy efficiency assessment of potential study.

The survey will help gauge the potential of energy efficiency among IAMU members and provide input regarding energy efficiency services IAMU should be offering its members. The survey will help IAMU serve you better. Please fill out the survey and return it to IAMU by Wednesday, January 28, 2009.

If you did not receive a survey or have questions about the survey, contact Sandy Longfellow at slongfellow@iamu.org. If you have questions about the energy efficiency assessment of potential, contact Joel Logan at jlogan@iamu.org.

State grant funds for local water quality improvement



◆ The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship - Division of Soil Conservation (DSC) (IDALS) are encouraging groups across the state to apply for grant funding to help improve Iowa's water quality.

In a joint application process, Iowa Soil and Water Conservation Districts can apply for funding from DNR Section 319, and/or the Water Protection Fund (WPF) and the Watershed Protection Fund (WSPF) from IDALS-DSC. Other groups and organizations are invited to apply for Section 319 funding through the DNR. The deadline for applications is April 1, 2009.

Groups considering applying for a grant can contact Steve Hopkins, DNR watershed improvement coordinator, at (515) 281-6402 with questions and for one-on-one assistance regarding Section 319 grants. Those with questions about WPF or WSPF funding can contact Jim Gillespie, IDALS Field Services Bureau Chief, at (515) 281-7043. More information on grants and watershed improvement is available on the DNR's Web site at <http://watershed.iowadnr.gov> or the IDALS-DSC Web site at www.iowaagriculture.gov/soilConservation.asp.

CEU deadline for water/ww operators approaching



◆ The deadline for earning Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for water treatment, water distribution and/or wastewater license renewal is March 31, 2009. Grade I and II operators need to earn one (1) CEU and Grade III and IV operators need to have earned two (2) CEUs by the deadline. Operators who hold both a water treatment and distribution license need to earn the required CEUs mentioned above but no less than 25% of CEUs can be earned in one area. Only 20% of the required CEUs can be earned in safety.

Remember, it is a water operator's responsibility to keep track of his/her CEUs. You can manage your earned CEUs by keeping a copy of your CEU form from workshops and periodically checking the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Operator Certification Database. IDNR will post CEUs turned in by issuing agencies for each water operator on their database, which can be accessed from their website at <http://programs.iowadnr.gov/opcertweb/>.

If you are short on CEUs, register for the annual Advanced Water Treatment and Water Distribution Workshops at IAMU March 4 & 5 (a total of 1.0 CEUs). For more information about upcoming courses offered by IAMU, go to <http://www.iamu.org/calendar/index.asp>. For workshops offered by other organizations around the state, visit IDNR's calendar at <http://programs.iowadnr.gov/opcertweb/CalendarView.aspx>.

For more information e-mail Jill Soenen (jsoenen@iamu.org) or Jessica Lillie (jlillie@iamu.org) at IAMU or call 515-289-1999.

Eco@Home magazine presented with major award



Pictured is IAMU Executive Director Bob Haug receiving the award from Catharine Staub of Lexicon Consulting.

◆ IAMU's *Eco@Home* customer communication magazine has been presented with the "Silver Pearl" Award from the Custom Publishing Council, in the category of "Editorial, Best New Newsletter." The Pearl Awards are the top honor in the field of "custom publishing." *Eco@Home* was nominated for the award by Lexicon Consulting, a custom media firm based in Des Moines, which coordinates the publication's editorial content.



Your utility can join the *Eco@Home* program. Go to www.iamu.org and use the link.

The IAMU *Informer* is an electronic publication of the Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities.

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