



**Upcoming Events**

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/>

March 26, 2009

**Energy Efficiency Workshop**

*Register/more information:*

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

(click "March 2009")

**IAMU Winter Meeting coming — register by Feb. 6**



**Think Spring!**  
IAMU (Winter) Meeting

◆ **There's still time to "Think Spring!" and register for the upcoming IAMU Winter Meeting.** We're looking ahead to better weather and looking down the road toward the future of important topics and issues that affect IAMU members. Join us February 10-11 at the Courtyard by Marriott in Ankeny. In addition, IAMU's Training & Office Complex will be the location for a legislative reception February 10 from 5-7 p.m. IAMU members are urged to extend personal invitations to their respective legislators. Shuttles between the hotel and IAMU will be available for the Legislative Reception.

The meeting agenda will include Susan Stratton, Executive Director of the Energy Center of Wisconsin. She will discuss digesters and water efficiency/conservation, as well as the topic of the smart grid and Midwestern needs. Wind energy will be on the agenda, with updates regarding the Iowa Stored Energy Park and the new IAMWind project.

A legislative update from IAMU Legislative Counsel Julie Smith will also be featured, along with a session discussing federal legislative issues.

Associate members will be on hand with displays open during two different times February 10.

Registration for the meeting is \$100 per person, with a registration deadline of February 6. Register for the meeting on the IAMU website, [www.iamu.org](http://www.iamu.org) (look for the "Think Spring" Winter Meeting links on the front page).

**Special ISEP presentation set for Feb. 11**

◆ **Find out all the latest developments regarding the Iowa Stored Energy Park (ISEP) in a special meeting at IAMU's Training & Office Complex immediately following the conclusion of the IAMU Winter Meeting February 11.**



Lunch will be served to all in attendance beginning at noon, with the ISEP presentation, hosted by project director Kent Holst and Tom Wind of Wind Utility Consulting, beginning at 12:30 p.m. in the IAMU auditorium.

**Watch your email for an invitation and more information coming this week.**

**IUB chair Norris named Vilsack's chief of staff in D.C.**



*John Norris*

◆ **John Norris, Chairman of the Iowa Utilities Board, is Washington, D.C.-bound as chief of staff to former Iowa Governor Tom Vilsack, who was recently named Secretary of Agriculture.**

Norris is no stranger to the political world. He is a former chief of staff to Governor Vilsack (where he chaired the Governor's working group on electric restructuring), and former chief of staff to Iowa Congressman Leonard Boswell. He also worked as Iowa State Director and National Field Director of the John Kerry presidential campaign. Norris' wife, Jackie, who served as President Obama's Iowa Campaign Manager, was recently named chief of staff to First Lady Michelle Obama.

Norris was appointed to the Iowa Utilities Board in March 2005 and accepted the Chairman's role that same month. In addition to serving as Chairman of the IUB, Norris has served in other utility-related capacities, including the Board of Trustees for the Iowa Power Fund and as the IUB representative to the Advisory Council of the Iowa Energy Center.

### Skip Collier workshop draws big crowd to IAMU



Renowned electric operations speaker Skip Collier shared his expertise with a full house at the IAMU Training & Office Complex with the Electric Utility System Operation Short Course. One workshop attendee traveled from Hawaii to hear Collier.

### DOE provides power grid educational materials

The US Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability has recently provided access to some applets and instructional material about the electric power grid.

While the material can be used by anyone, it was specifically designed for middle school aged children (ages 11 to 15).

Each applet has an associated lesson plan for the teachers, and handout material for students. In field tests in a number of schools both the teachers and students have found the material to be fun and instructive. These interactive animations were created by the University of Illinois' Trustworthy Cyber Infrastructure for the Power Grid (TCIP) project through the joint efforts of elementary educational professionals and power engineers. TCIP is funded by the National Science Foundation, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability at the Department of Energy. The applets and lessons are available at [http://www.oe.energy.gov/interactive\\_grid.htm](http://www.oe.energy.gov/interactive_grid.htm)

## Required knowledge to be discussed at EE workshop



IAMU will be holding a fast-paced, one day energy efficiency workshop March 26. The workshop will present vital information that municipal utilities must know in regard to the new state energy efficiency mandates that apply to them. The new requirements are a result of Senate File 2386, passed in spring 2008, and require each municipal electric and gas utility to:

- ▮ Assess the maximum potential for energy and capacity savings through cost effective energy efficiency measures and programs.
- ▮ Establish an energy efficiency goal based on the assessment.
- ▮ Establish cost effective energy efficiency programs designed to meet the energy efficiency goal.
- ▮ Provide a report to the Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) by January 1, 2010 detailing energy efficiency goals and measures, and an analysis of the cost effectiveness of each measure.

IAMU retained the Energy Center of Wisconsin to conduct a statewide energy efficiency assessment for all IAMU member utilities. The results of the assessment will be presented at the workshop, along with information on how to establish energy efficiency goals and programs. The assessment findings will show what energy efficiency measures are cost effective and what level of energy and capacity savings could be achieved using each measure. Any utility employee, utility board or city council member, or mayor involved in setting energy efficiency goals or running energy efficiency programs is invited to attend.

For registration and more information, go to [www.iamu.org](http://www.iamu.org) (Calendar/Registration," then click "March 2009"), or contact Joel Logan at IAMU, [jlogan@iamu.org](mailto:jlogan@iamu.org) or 800-810-4268.

## Fed stimulus plan includes EE, utility program money



The \$825 billion economic stimulus package championed by President Obama and currently being considered by the U.S. Congress includes a plan to "transform the nation's energy transmission, distribution and production systems by allowing for a smarter and better grid and focusing investment in renewable technology."

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 includes a number of provisions that will impact cities, municipal utilities and state programs. Some of those provisions include:

- ▮ \$11 billion for research and development, pilot programs, and federal matching funds for the Smart Grid Investment Program
- ▮ \$8 billion for loans for renewable energy power generation and transmission projects
- ▮ \$6.9 billion to help state and local governments make themselves more energy efficient and to reduce carbon emissions
- ▮ \$2.5 billion for a new program to upgrade HUD sponsored low-income housing to increase energy efficiency
- ▮ \$1.5 billion for energy sustainability and efficiency grants and loans to help various entities, including municipal utilities, implement projects to improve energy efficiency
- ▮ \$6.2 billion for weatherization of homes of low-income families
- ▮ \$300 million to provide customers with rebates for the purchase of ENERGY STAR products (see related story, IAMU Informer, Jan. 12, 2009)
- ▮ \$6 billion for broadband and wireless services in underserved areas
- ▮ \$6 billion for loans for community wastewater treatment systems
- ▮ \$2 billion for loans for drinking water infrastructure (through state revolving funds)
- ▮ \$400 million for the Natural Resources Conservation Service watershed improvement programs
- ▮ \$200 million for enforcement and clean up of leaking petroleum leaks

For more information on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, see the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations website: <http://appropriations.house.gov/>

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

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