



Upcoming Events

January 21 — 23, 2009

Electric Utility System Operation Short Course

Register/more information:

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

Jan. 26 — 30, 2009

Gas “Boot Camp” OQ Training

Register/more information:

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

Jan. 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

IAMU Winter Meeting

Courtyard by Marriott, Ankeny

Donation of equipment for Watt-Hour workshops

◆ IAMU extends its thanks to **IlSCO Corporation**, which recently donated equipment to be used in connection with the association’s upcoming **Watt-Hour Metering Workshops**. The week-long workshops, conducted by Larry Chapman of Chapman Metering Services will be held February 4—8. Register online at <http://www.iamu.org/calendar/> (click on “February 2009”).

IUB rolls out new internet Electronic Filing System



◆ The Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) has implemented its new Internet Electronic Filing System (EFS). This new paperless process applies to filings made in IUB proceedings effective January 2, 2009. This will include documents such as the ME-1 and MG-1 Annual Reports. It enables the public to view most case documents filed in IUB proceedings from the EFS Web site, <http://efs.iowa.gov>, or from a link on the IUB home page, www.state.ia.us/iub.

This new system comes after many months of preparation. Working with a vendor, IUB staff designed and tested the EFS and trained internal and external users in how to use the EFS. As provided in the Board’s new electronic filing rules, electronic filing is mandatory for all dockets, subject to the following exceptions: 1) persons excused by Board order because of special circumstances; 2) proceedings initiated before January 2, 2009; 3) payment of required fees; and 4) certain consumer and land owner comments (noted at the end of this release).

Anyone who wants to become a registered user of this Web-based system must complete a registration form, available on the EFS Web site, and obtain a user ID and password. Persons who make no more than two filings with the Board per year do not have to register to file using the EFS and can submit filings as a guest. Electronic filing is expected to be more convenient for the public, as electronic filings can be submitted and these public records can be viewed at any time (outside of maintenance periods).

For more specific information about how to file electronically, consult the user guides available on the Board’s EFS Web site. It is not necessary to register to use the EFS to search for public records filed with or issued by the Board.

While the new EFS may be used for most filings, individuals should continue to file consumer complaints and comments about utility service by sending an email to the Iowa Utilities Board at iubcustomer@iub.state.ia.us, using the appropriate on-line form from the IUB Web site, or by using postal mail. Landowners and affected customers in electric transmission line franchise or pipeline permit proceedings may still send written comments by postal mail or use an online electronic objection form. For more information on EFS exceptions visit the IUB Web site (www.state.ia.us/iub) or call the IUB toll free at 877-565-4451.

Tier 2 hazardous substance reports due in March



◆ The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is reminding facilities and businesses required to complete Tier 2 chemical inventory reports that the reports are due by the close of business March 2, 2009.

Facilities are required to submit the report if they store hazardous substances at or above certain threshold levels. The reports are required by the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA). Reports may be submitted to the DNR beginning Jan. 2, 2009.

The DNR will accept two methods for report submissions this year. Users may use the online system or submit paper forms. In addition, there have been some minor changes in the rules. A fact sheet summarizing the changes is posted on the DNR website.

The web address listed in a recent mailing was incomplete. The correct address is www.iowadnr.gov/epcra/tier2.html.

Contact Elonda Bacon, EPCRA Coordinator, at (515) 725-0302 or Elonda.Bacon@dnr.iowa.gov

Midwest ISO set to begin ancillary services market

◆ The Midwest ISO has been authorized by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to start its ancillary services market (ASM) January 6. The organization will accept offers for three ASM products: regulation, and two forms of contingency reserves. Offers can be placed through the Market Production Portal.



The ASM will integrate the buying and selling of regulation and contingency reserves with the existing energy markets. "Regulation" refers to the moment-to-moment changes in resources that are necessary to meet changes in electrical demand. "Contingency Reserves" refer to additional generating capacity or demand response resources that are able to respond within 10 minutes to meet certain major events such as the loss of a large generating unit or transmission line.

Simultaneous with the launch of its ancillary services market, the Midwest ISO will begin functioning as the region's overall Balancing Authority. At that time, existing balancing authorities – Mid-American Energy and Interstate Power & Light (Alliant Energy) will become Local Balancing Authorities.

The Midwest ISO website can be accessed at www.midwestmarket.org.

IAMU submits update of EE assessment of potential



◆ On December 31, 2008 IAMU filed an update with the Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) regarding the energy efficiency assessment of potential being performed on behalf of IAMU member utilities. This is in compliance with Iowa Code § 476.6(16)(bb) 2007 Code Supplement.

The update reviewed the steps involved in conducting the assessment and the current status of the work being performed by IAMU's project consultant, the Energy Center of Wisconsin (ECW). The full text of the update can be found on IAMU's website: [2008 Update on Energy Efficiency Assessment](#)

The study is assessing the amount of energy and capacity each municipal utility could save through cost effective demand side management measures, demand response programs, and supply side efficiency measures. The major steps in the project involve determining the technical potential for energy savings, economic potential for energy savings, and the achievable potential for energy savings. Currently, ECW is refining the model that will be used to make these estimates. ECW plans to prepare a questionnaire for input from IAMU members in January to better estimate the achievable potential of energy efficiency. ECW anticipates that the assessment project will be completed in mid March.

For any questions about the assessment project, contact Joel Logan, IAMU's energy services engineer, at jlogan@iamu.org, or 515-289-1999.

Water infrastructure special airs on IPTV January 11



◆ Iowa Public Television will present a special documentary about issues related to America's water infrastructure this weekend. Called "Liquid Assets: The Story of Our Water Infrastructure." This 90-minute special will air at 5:30 p.m. January 11, statewide (confirm broadcast time through your local listings).

With the U.S. Congress now considering more money for water systems as part of the economic stimulus package, the subject matter of the documentary has become even more timely. Municipal water utility employees and governing officials, and their customers are encouraged to view the program.

The documentary will look at drinking water, wastewater and stormwater systems and their critical role in day-to-day life, public safety and economic development – and the many issues facing these systems nationwide, including the serious factor of aging of underground infrastructure and the need for more financial investment in its improvement. Some estimates have predicted that necessary upgrades to water infrastructure is the single largest public works endeavor in the nation's history.

The program features interviews with individuals such as environmentalist Martin Melosi, Atlanta, GA Mayor Shirley Franklin, Steve Allbee of the Environmental Protection Agency and Linda Kelly of the Water Environment Foundation.

The executive producer of the program has said it was intended to be not just a television broadcast, but a catalyst to stimulate community discussion and bring the issue into focus for the general public. A Community Toolkit and Outreach Guide, along with more information about the documentary is available online from the program's website at www.liquidassets.psu.edu. It is a production of WPSU-TV (Penn State Public Broadcasting).

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

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