



IOWA ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPAL UTILITIES NEWSLETTER

APPA
American Public Power Association
**Policymakers
Workshop**



Dr. Tarbert was joined in the program by Julie Smith, IAMU Legislative Counsel (above, top); Kelly Frazier, IAMU Legal Counsel (above, bottom); and Lance Coppock of the Ahlers law firm (right).

IAMU HOSTS "TRAVELING" APPA POLICY WORKSHOP

IAMU electric utility members once again enjoyed the opportunity to experience the APPA (American Public Power Association) Policymakers Workshop here in Iowa. Dr. Jeff Tarbert, Sr. Vice President of APPA, shared his knowledge, experience and advice in the "traveling" version of the workshop he often presents to large audiences at national venues.



Jeff Tarbert

Topics presented included governance responsibilities and effectiveness; public power's value today; the market's evolution; strategic issues for public power; monitoring utility performance; and information needed by boards and councils. IAMU staff members also participated in the workshop, with Kelly Frazier, IAMU Legal Counsel; Julie Smith, IAMU Legislative Counsel; Anne Kimber, IAMU Director of Energy Services; and Bob Haug, IAMU Executive Director, all participating. Lance Coppock of the Ahlers Law Firm also joined the list of speakers.



UTILITIES MUST LEARN TO CHANGE WITH THE TIMES

By Bob Haug & Anne Kimber, IAMU

Municipal utilities have long advocated a policy of open access to transmission facilities. Passage of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 offered the hope that we could reach more competitive wholesale suppliers as well as facilities that we jointly owned. However, the policies that were intended to get us to a competitive wholesale market have not worked well in an industry built for and still characterized by vertically integrated monopolies. The promise may yet be met and conditions will undoubtedly improve, but there are many near-term risks – risks that require municipal utilities to rethink the way they do business.

Utilities that purchase most or all of their power supply in the wholesale market through all-requirements, or partial-requirements contracts face significant risk in the short-run. In the past, though many municipal utilities were captive customers of the utility whose facilities connected them to the larger grid, suppliers were generally reliable, their wholesale rates were regulated, and they offered stable rates for terms that typically ran 10 to 20 years. In short, wholesale, full-requirements contracts were relatively low risk. Today, wholesale rates are deregulated, a "long-term" contract is closer to five years, not all suppliers are financially reliable, and prices tends to move with the market. A utility at the end of its wholesale contract may find its supplier is not interested in renewing the contract or will do so only at rates pegged to the short-term or even a daily market. And where a competitive supplier can be found, the delivery path over

Continued on Page 6



Biodiesel & Electric Generation

BIODIESEL IN THE SPOTLIGHT IN IAMU WORKSHOP

The new philosophy of incorporating biodiesel technology in electrical generation was presented in detail in the Biodiesel & Electric Generation workshop held recently at IAMU's Training & Office Complex.

Guest speakers from government, biodiesel support agencies, research programs and private industry all presented attendees with their views, experience and advice on employing biodiesel generation. Topics included an overview of biodiesel development, regulatory issues, a diesel engine manufacturer's panel, a biodiesel user's

panel, current research, purchasing and storing biodiesel, and what lies ahead in biodiesel generation.

Biodiesel is a new, environmentally-friendly fuel source created from natural materials, such as soybeans.

It has highly useful implications for municipal utilities and municipalities. For more information on how biodiesel could play a role in your community, contact Anne Kimber at IAMU, 800/810-4268, or visit the National Biodiesel Board web site at www.nbb.org.

The presenter lineup at the Biodiesel workshop included representatives from IAMU associate member businesses. Pictured are (left photo): Gene Vantluka of Cummins Power Generation and Steve Steenhoek of Ziegler Cat; and (right photo) Steve Schreurs of SEH Inc.



GRADE I WATER WORKSHOPS HELP OPERATOR CERTIFICATION

New water operators had an opportunity for training in preparation for the Grade I water treatment exam with another series of Grade I workshops in October and November.

Held in North Liberty, Independence, Atlantic, Humboldt and at IAMU's Training & Office Complex in Ankeny, the workshops covered information that a Grade I water operator needs to know. Although the course was a full day packed with information, many positive comments were heard from operators attending the course. A special thanks goes out to the IAMU member utilities that helped set up and host the workshops.

The seven-hour course is designed for water operators to prepare for Grade I certification testing. It was free for operators from public water supplies with less than 3,300 population and a small fee was charged for systems over 3,000 population. Each participant received a manual for exam study and as a reference. This course will be offered again in October 2005.

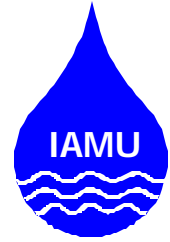


Grade I Workshop attendees are shown hard at work at the North Liberty workshop.



IAMU's new Water Services Assistant Eric Halligan helped lead discussion in the workshop held at IAMU's Training & Office Complex.

IAMU's Water Services Department found it exciting to see some new people planning to be involved in water operations. IAMU wishes them the best of luck as they prepare for the exam.



10th ANNUAL
WATER
AND WASTEWATER
OPERATORS' TRAINING
WORKSHOP

BIG INTEREST IN TENTH WATER/WASTEWATER WORKSHOP

Nearly 200 attendees helped make the 10th anniversary edition of the Water and Wastewater Operators' Training Workshop one of the best ever. Operators, speakers and vendors once again descended upon the Four Points Sheraton hotel in Des Moines for two and one-half days of training, information, a field trip and networking with fellow water professionals and equipment suppliers.

Three separate "tracks," (Water Treatment, Water Distribution and Wastewater) again

allowed operators to focus on their area of specialty, and general sessions brought attendees together for topics that pertained to all. The final day of the workshop featured split sessions for operators and management personnel. The annual product show and reception on the workshop's first night allowed time for attendees to learn about the latest products and services offered by businesses on hand. Attendees in the Wastewater track toured the Ames Water Pollution Control facility.



Leo Alderman of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (far left) and Ivan Webber of the Ahlers law firm (left) were two of many speakers at the workshop. A number of vendors were on hand, including Hydro Metering Technology and National Waterworks (middle row); and new IAMU associate members Evaluation Services and EDM Equipment (bottom row).

Plan now to join the 11th Annual Water and Wastewater Operators' Training Workshop November 15-17, 2005, in Des Moines.





GET THE LOWDOWN ON NFPA 70E WITH IAMU WORKSHOP

The new Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) NFPA 70E Requirements for Arc Flash Protection are requirements that apply to all utility workers, including water, gas, telecommunication and electric utility employees who must work on or near energized equipment during the course of their duties.

IAMU is offering a series of workshops to assist utility employees in meeting these critical new mandatory requirements. The "NFPA 70E – Meeting OSHA Requirements for Arc Flash Protection" workshop will be held in seven locations around the state in December and January. Subject matter will include:

- Overview of electric safety and shock hazards
- Principles of arc-flash hazards
- OSHA and IOSHA (Iowa Occupational Safety & health Administration); their roles
- Performing an arc-flash hazard analysis
- Precautions for personal activities and determining proper PPE
- Simplified two-category flame resistant clothing system
- Hazard/Risk evaluation flow chart

The workshop schedule is:

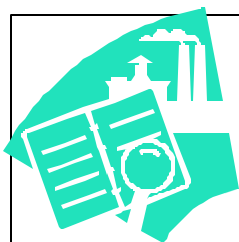
- December 14: Iowa City (Public Library)
- December 15: Denison (Denison Municipal Utilities offices)
- December 16: Algona (Algona Municipal Utilities offices)
- December 21: Griswold (Community Building)
- January 4: Central Iowa location, to be announced
- January 5: Manchester (Siebert City Park Hall)
- January 6: Ankeny (IAMU Training & Office Complex)

Cost for the workshop is \$110 per person for IAMU members and \$135 per person for non-members. Watch for registration materials in the mail, or register online with the IAMU web site (www.iamu.org, click on "Upcoming Workshops"). For more information contact Deny or Melody at IAMU, 800/810-4268.



Arc Flash Awareness Labels

IAMU will be pursuing the purchase of arc flash safety labels that will fulfill the NFPA 70E requirements for "warning qualified persons." These labels will be of high quality and may be affixed to electrical circuitry cabinets. Watch for future information on the status of these labels and their availability.



**NEW
CODE BOOKS
AVAILABLE
THROUGH
IAMU**

The Iowa Utility Board (IUB) is considering the adoption of two new code books, both of which are now available from IAMU.

The 2005 **National Electric Code** may be ordered through IAMU for \$65 (plus \$4 shipping).

The NFPA 70E Standard addresses the new requirements for arc flash hazard assessment and proper personal protective equipment. This book may be ordered from IAMU for \$36 (plus \$3.50 shipping).

If you would like to order copies of either of these books, please contact Melody at IAMU by phone at 800/810-4268 or by e-mail to mtaninies@iamu.org.



Life in the Trenches — Made Safer: A recent IAMU Competent Person Workshop focused on the all-important subject of trenching and shoring, with the assistance of United Rentals Trench Safety. Here, Greg Hope (left) and Todd Hayes of United Rentals talk safety.



IUB'S ELLIOTT SMITH TO FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS BOARD

The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) has selected Elliott Smith of the Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) to serve on the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service. Smith's nomination has been forwarded to FCC Chairman Michael Powell for confirmation, which is expected to occur in the near future.

Smith will serve on the Universal Service Joint Board with three other state utility commissioners, three FCC commissioners, and a consumer advocate representative. The Joint Board was established eight years ago to make recommendations to the FCC on how to best implement the Universal Service provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The Universal Service Fund (USF) helps ensure affordable access to telecommunications services for high-cost and low-income customers, schools and libraries, and rural health care providers. All telecommunications companies that provide service between states are required to contribute to the fund, which generally appears as a line

item on customer bills. Iowa telephone companies, schools, and libraries received more than \$98 million from the USF in 2003. The total contribution revenue base for the fund is projected to grow to more than \$18 billion in 2005.

"It is a tremendous honor to be asked to serve on the Universal Service Joint Board," said Smith. "The contribution methods and revenue distribution formulas under which the fund now operates are being critically evaluated by the Joint Board. The outcome of that process could have a significant impact on the telecommunications industry in Iowa and throughout the country."

Smith has served as an IUB Board member since February 2002. He serves as Chair of the Intercarrier Compensation Task Force for the NARUC Telecommunications Committee and also represents NARUC on the FCC's North American Numbering Council and the North American Billing and Collection Board of Directors.



Elliott Smith

GAS WORKSHOP CALENDAR TAKES SHAPE FOR 2005

IAMU's Gas Services Department has finalized dates for a number of workshops to be held in 2005.

The first gas workshop of the new year will be held January 31 – February 4 with Operator Qualification Training for new employees, on-call personnel, or operators that wish to receive a refresher for Operator Qualification. This is a great hands-on opportunity for basic training before the spring construction season begins.

The month of March will be busy, with the Basic Serviceperson Workshop, hosted by IAMU in conjunction with the Midwest Energy Association, March 8-10; the Gas Pipeline Welder Qualification Workshop

will return, with classes at Iowa Lakes Community College in Emmetsburg March 14-18, and at Des Moines Area Community College in Ankeny March 21-25.

May 3 – 5 will see the Plastic Pipe Joining Workshop at IAMU's Training & Office Complex in Ankeny; and the popular Midwest Regional Gas Operations Workshop, held in conjunction with the American Public Gas Association (APGA), has been scheduled for September 13 – 16 at IAMU.

Watch future issues of the IAMU Newsletter for more information on the above workshops; look for registration materials to be mailed prior to each workshop, or register for workshops on the IAMU web site (www.iamu.org).





CHANGE WITH THE TIMES

Continued from Page 1

an increasingly expensive and congested transmission system may be difficult to find. In other parts of the country, these temporary dislocations are causing significant increases in wholesale power costs.

If this picture of the wholesale market seems grim, it is. However, there are ways to reduce risk for utilities willing to rethink the way they do business.

Transmission: Through the Midwest Municipal Transmission Group (or in the case of MRES members, through their agency) Iowa municipal utilities have been able to influence transmission policy and find solutions to specific transmission problems. MMTG cannot hold back the rising cost of transmission service, so we continue to pursue opportunities to invest in transmission. If municipal utilities own as much transmission

as they use, payments for use of those facilities by others should not only repay the debt to purchase them, but also yield returns that offset rising costs. IAMU members and their governing bodies need to know the rationale for this strategy and the means to implement it, so that timely action can be taken when investment opportunities arise. We don't have to create an army of transmission experts for this strategy to work, but we do need a common basic understanding of what is happening in the wholesale power market and with related transmission policy. We suggest that at a minimum, utility managers and policymakers become familiar with a few terms and concepts defined briefly in the accompanying glossary. IAMU regional meetings, the IAMU annual conference, and supplementary written materials will help fill in the gaps of understanding.

Glossary

MISO: Midwest Independent System Operator is the regional transmission operator for much of the Midwest. In Iowa, municipal utilities in the Alliant control area (those served by Alliant or CIPCO) are within MISO's footprint. MISO is scheduled to start an energy market March 1, 2005. Under the MISO open access transmission tariff (OATT), transmission customers pay MISO administrative charges, plus charges for congestion on the transmission system. MISO is also responsible for transmission planning in its footprint.

MMTG: A group of 120 municipal utilities in Iowa, Minnesota and Illinois working together to obtain transmission ownership rights. MMTG also works to document and solve transmission problems. The Iowa Municipal Transmission Group has over 90 members.

Locational Marginal Pricing – LMP is the cost of supplying next MW of load at a specific location, considering marginal cost of energy, transmission congestion, and losses. LMP is the tool MISO will use to assess congestion charges to transmission customers.

FTR: Financial Transmission Right is a financial instrument that entitles holder to a stream of revenues (or charges) based on the Day-ahead LMP differences between source & sink. FTRs are associated with a utility's load, but may not necessarily completely hedge the entire load if the load is served by inadequate transmission. A municipal utility must be a Market Participant in MISO in order to hold its own FTRs; otherwise these go, typically to an agent (for example, the power supplier) for the utility. GFA- Grandfathered Agreement. In MISO, GFAs confer protection from congestion charges for a certain amount of time.

IPPA: Iowa Public Power Agency – IPPA was created in 2002 as a result of the passage of joint financing legislation. It can undertake tax-exempt joint financing of transmission or generation projects for its members.



CALENDAR OF IAMU WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS



All information subject to change.

Unless otherwise noted, all events held at IAMU Training & Office Complex: 1735 NE 70th Ave., Ankeny, IA

December 2004

December 14	NFPA 70E Workshop, Iowa City
December 15	NFPA 70E Workshop, Denison
December 16	NFPA 70E Workshop, Algona
December 21	NFPA 70E Workshop, Griswold

January 2005

January 4	NFPA 70E Workshop, location to be announced
January 5	NFPA 70E Workshop, Manchester
January 6	NFPA 70E Workshop, Ankeny (IAMU)
January 19 – 21	Advanced Electric Workshop
January 27 – 28	Safety Coordinators Workshop
January 31 – February 4	Gas OQ Training for Beginners/On-Call Personnel

February 2005

February 2 – 4	Watt-Hour Metering Workshop
February 16 – 18	IAMU Annual Conference University Park Holiday Inn, West Des Moines
February 23 – 25	Watt-Hour Metering Workshop
February 24	Competent Person Workshop (Spring Session)

March 2005

March 8-10	Basic Service Person Workshop (IAMU/Midwest Energy Assn.)
March 14 – 18	Gas Welding Qualification Workshop, Emmetsburg (ILCC)
March 21 – 25	Gas Welding Qualification Workshop, Ankeny (DMACC)
Date to be announced	Advanced Water Treatment Workshop
Date to be announced	Advanced Water Distribution Workshop

April

Dates to be announced	Consumer Confidence Report Workshops
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It's Directory Update Time!!

Attention all IAMU Member Utilities/Cities: It's time to make sure you're listed accurately in the 2005 IAMU Directory.

- Please take a few minutes to review your listing in the 2004 Directory.
- If **no** changes need to be made:
 - 1) Please indicate this in the box below and fax or mail this form to IAMU
 - 2) **Please be sure to include the name of your utility on the form.**
- If there are changes/updates that need to be made, please fill in the new information and fax or mail this form to IAMU.

Deadline: **Friday, December 10, 2004**

Questions: Call IAMU at 800/810-4268

Fax: 515/289-2499

Thank you for your support of IAMU!

No changes – please reprint the 2004 Directory listing as is

Utility or Municipality _____

Address _____
(Street or PO Box — Note: If your facility has a PO Box, please list it)

(City and Zip Code)

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____ Website _____

Council/Board meets _____ Fiscal year ends _____

of electric meters _____, # of water meters _____, # of gas meters _____

Founding Year: Electric _____, Gas _____, Water _____, Telecom _____

Contacts (Include any changes regarding personnel listed in the 2004 Directory).
More than two changes? Please contact IAMU.

Name, title of new contact Name, title of person replaced

Direct Phone # Direct Fax # E-mail

Name, title of new contact Name, title of person replaced

Direct Phone # Direct Fax # E-mail



WOODBINE MAKES THE MOST OF PUBLIC POWER WEEK

Woodbine Municipal Light & Power celebrated Public Power Week again this year with an open house all week long. Customers of the municipal electric utility were able to stop by and enjoy refreshments at the municipal utilities office and register for door prizes.

The utility also launched its "River Winds" green power promotion during Public Power Week. The municipal electric utility, in conjunction with Missouri River Energy Services, can now offer a green power alternative to its customers with the addition of two 900 KW wind turbines that are located near Worthington, MN.



Rory Weis, Superintendent of Woodbine Municipal Light & Power, and Joni Livingston of Missouri River Energy Services, presented the new alternative to the community through programs at the Woodbine Kiwanis Club and to the employees of the Woodbine Municipal Utilities.

Door prizes that were given away during Public Power Week included dollar amounts of \$25, \$15 and \$10 off a customer's electric bill, two 100 KWH blocks of wind energy, pens, pencils, cups and mouse pads.



Woodbine Municipal Light & Power used Public Power Week to promote its services to the community, including holding a program for school children. At far left, Jodi Livingston of Missouri River Energy Services serves as guest presenter of an electrical safety program for third and fourth graders. At left, the youngsters pose for the camera with souvenir hard hats they received, along with other gifts.

Many opportunities exist for municipal utilities to promote good will through positive community relations efforts. Woodbine Municipal Light & Power is one Iowa municipal utility using the Christmas holiday as time to do just that.

The utility is teaming with the Woodbine Chamber of Commerce on "Christmas Cash," a program that gives customers of the utility \$25 worth of spending money for the holidays. Last Christmas saw the debut of the program.

All residential customers of Woodbine Municipal Light & Power receive a \$25 Christmas Cash coupon. The beauty of the program is that it's not only a thoughtful public relations gesture for the town's residents, but a way to boost sales for local

Woodbine businesses – the Christmas Cash coupons must be used at businesses that are members of the Woodbine Chamber of Commerce. That's about 60 merchants. And, holders of the coupons are required to spend a minimum of \$20 at the business of their choice, to assure the majority of the money stays in Woodbine.

The program adds about \$16,000 to the local business economy, and keeps more holiday shopping in Woodbine, instead of money being spent in other cities, especially the nearby Omaha metro area. "It's a great way to get people into the local stores for their purchases. People see all the participating Woodbine businesses and realize they don't have to leave town to do their holiday shopping," said August Barry, President of the Woodbine Chamber of Commerce.



**EVERYONE WINS
WITH WOODBINE
PROMOTION**



— HELP WANTED —

ELECTRIC LINE WORKER: Algona Municipal Utilities is seeking a qualified candidate for this position. The candidate must be able to perform any and all work functions normally associated with, but not limited to, the construction, operation and maintenance of an electric transmission and distribution system. May work alone or as a member of a crew. This job consists of a 40-hour workweek, Monday through Friday. However, during system disturbances and emergencies, longer hours will be required. Applicant must be willing to accept scheduled "on call" basis for weeknights and weekends, generally once every four weeks and posses the ability to exercise tact and diplomacy in public contacts. Applicant must reside in the Algona Municipal Utilities service territory or other location as approved by the Board of Trustees. A candidate should have successfully completed a formal technical training program for utility line workers; graduated from an accredited high school or a vocational school; or any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the required knowledge, skills and abilities. Applicants are required to take a post-offer physical. The applicant must possess a valid Class "A" Commercial Drivers License or ability to obtain one within six months. Pre-employment drug screening required per Federal DOT regulations. Algona Municipal Utilities is an Equal Opportunity Employer. You may print an application from our website at www.netamu.com or request an application from: Algona Municipal Utilities 104 West Call Street Algona, Iowa 50511 (515) 295-3584 amu@netamu.com 11/04

CLASSIFIEDS

IAMU Classified Ads are provided on a space-available basis at no charge to IAMU member utilities. At the discretion of IAMU, ad space may be granted to other entities for a fee. Please call IAMU for more information.

Ads will be run for a minimum of one month. Ads placed by IAMU member utilities may be repeated, at the advertiser's request, if space allows.

If an ad carries a specific deadline for response, before placing the ad, please call ahead to check the Newsletter publication schedule.

Mail, fax (515/289-2499) or e-mail (jburnett@iamu.org) ad copy to John Burnett at IAMU.



Seen the IAMU Web Site Lately?

- C Associate Member Info.
C Iowa Stored Energy Plant
C Storm Water Information
C Safety & Training Info.
C Utility Maps
C Upcoming Workshops
C MuniPAC Program Info.
C Newsletter Archive
....and much more

Here for you at www.iamu.org



— FOR SALE —

AMBULANCE: 1997 Med-Tec, Ford Chassis, diesel motor. Approximately 42,000 miles. \$35,000/OBO. Available when new replacement unit arrives (approx. 3-4 months from October). Very clean, well maintained unit. Contact:

Jeremey Peck
Wellman Volunteer Ambulance Service
Phone: 319/646-6603 11/04

SAVE ON OSHA POSTERS!



OSHA safety and health posters through some sources can cost as much as \$80 per set!

If you're an IAMU member utility, you can purchase the same required posters for only \$3 per set!

Posters required by the State of Iowa:

- > Safety and Health Protection on the Job
> Iowa Hourly Minimum Wage
> Unemployment Insurance (Iowa Workforce Development)

Posters required by the Federal Government:

- > Equal employment opportunity
> Employee Polygraph Protection Act
> Family and Medical Leave Act

Other required Forms:

- > OSHA Recordkeeping Forms 300 & 300A

Call Deny, Rita or Melody at IAMU: 800/810-4268

Help support IAMU's training programs when you buy safety equipment online from Omark Safety. Omark Safety, an IAMU associate member, has offered to contribute three per cent of each online sale to support the association's safety programs. To make this happen, all IAMU members need to do is enter the reference code "IAMU" during the checkout process of an online order through Omark. Purchases can be made through the company's web site at www.omarksafety.com or through the IAMU website (www.iamu.org) under "Resources." Questions? Call Omark Safety at 800/383-7233



You've Got Questions

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We've Got Answers

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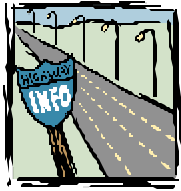
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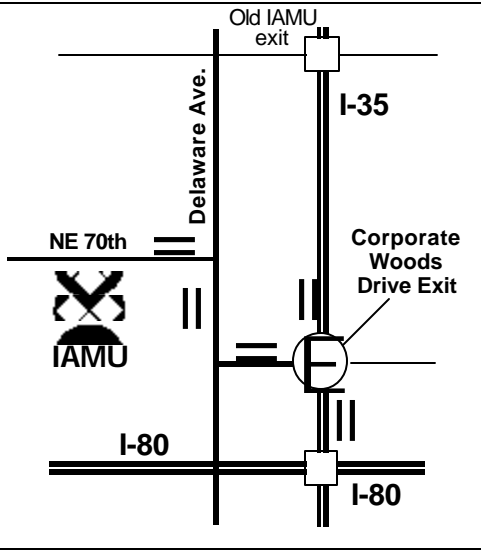
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513-399-3734

**NEW I-35 EXIT;
EASIER ACCESS
TO IAMU**



The new Corporate Woods Drive interchange on Interstate 35 is now open. This will provide easier driving access to IAMU.

The Corporate Woods Drive exit is south of Exit 90 (Ankeny Industrial Exit) and just north of the I-35/I-80 interchange (see map to right)



SOLD! **BOUGHT!** **HIRED!** IAMU Classifieds Work for You!



IAMU 2005 ANNUAL CONFERENCE



**University
Park**
West Des Moines
**FEBRUARY
16 - 18, 2005**

*For reservations contact
Stephanie Tigges at
515/223-1800*

The IAMU Newsletter is published monthly to provide information to IAMU members on the safe, efficient and reliable operation of municipal electric, gas, water and telecommunication utilities. Contributions from members and others which advance this purpose are solicited and appreciated. Address changes should be sent to: IAMU, 1735 NE 70th Ave., Ankeny, IA 50021-9353.

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This publication is designed to provide accurate and authoritative information in regard to the subject matter covered. It is furnished with the understanding that the Association is not engaged in rendering legal or other professional service. If legal advice or other professional or expert assistance is required, the services of a competent professional should be sought.

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With the IAMU Award Program!

SMILE!

Nominate an individual or organization for a job well done! A number of awards are available, and can be presented year-round.

Visit the IAMU Web Site to download an information packet: www.iamu.org. Or call IAMU at 800/810-4268.

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- * Change of address?
- * Need your own copy?

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Fax: 515/289-2499
e-mail: jburnett@iamu.org

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