



## Save the Date!

### PMEA Annual Finance Workshop – June 8, 2022 (online)

This year will feature additional speakers on the following topics:

- Customer Service & Assistance
- Best Practices in Disconnections
- GASB Update
- Grants & Funding Update
- Cybersecurity in Public Power

Watch your inbox for registration information or contact Diane Bosak, [bosak@papublicpower.org](mailto:bosak@papublicpower.org).

### \*Registration Opens Soon\*

### PMEA 2022 Annual Conference – September 7 – 9, 2022 @ Penn Stater, State College

Watch your inbox for announcements and details!

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## PMEA Offers Rubber Glove Safety Certification Courses

Lansdale and Grove City hosted Rubber Glove Safety Certification training in May. PMEA's ongoing partnership with the Northwest Lineman College brought these two additional sessions to our member boroughs.

Rubber Glove Safety included classroom-based instruction, hands-on demonstrations of competencies, and a written certification exam. The curriculum included: Safety regulations and applicable ANSI, ASTM standards and OSHA regulations; Industry best practices for rubber gloving; Insulate, isolate, and second point of contact; Field testing and



inspecting of rubber goods and related equipment; Care and storage of rubber goods and equipment; Types of rubber goods (Type I and Type II); Minimum Approach Distance (MAD) and Conductor weight calculations.

To date, PMEA has offered several courses on Advanced Transformers and will be offering **Crew Leadership** this fall. Watch your email for registration information as classes fill up quickly and space is limited.



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## Woglom Retires from Meyner Center



Dave Woglom has been central to Pennsylvania's local government scene for many decades including twenty as president and then executive director for PMEA. He also has 27 years' experience in municipal management in southeastern Pennsylvania, including 20 years as the Borough Manager in Quakertown, where he managed a municipality with a workforce of over 100 employees and an annual budget of more than \$20 million. He has extensive experience in finance and budgeting, labor contract negotiation, zoning and code enforcement, police, public works, stormwater, water, wastewater and electric. Since coming to the Meyner Center in 2007, Dave has completed work for more than eighty municipalities and other governmental entities.

Jeffrey Stonehill, current PMEA President, said this about Woglom, "First as the President of the PMEA Board and later as our Executive Director, Dave epitomized commitment to public power and the 35 Pennsylvania boroughs of PMEA. It goes without saying that if not for Dave's work with our association, we would never have been able to achieve our reorganization or the success that we've enjoyed all these years." PMEA wishes Dave well in his retirement!

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## Pennsylvania's EV State Planning

Pennsylvania is expected to receive \$171.5 million over the next five years for EV infrastructure charging. These funds are being released under the new federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and, specifically, the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Program. As part of the federal requirements, the state must develop a state plan and submit to the federal government before August 1, 2022.



The PA Department of Transportation held a public webinar on April 27 to begin the information and stakeholder process. A copy of the slides from the presentation are available here - [https://www.penndot.pa.gov/ProjectAndPrograms/Planning/EVs/Documents/PennDOT-NEVI-Webinar-Slides\\_April-2022.pdf](https://www.penndot.pa.gov/ProjectAndPrograms/Planning/EVs/Documents/PennDOT-NEVI-Webinar-Slides_April-2022.pdf) - and a recording of the webinar can be view here - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dMxJFIs5OY8>.

In addition to the outreach, the department is undertaking a rate design study. This study is considering what the current landscape is among utility stakeholders and others and, specifically, the following:

- What rate designs might better appeal to EV charging customers? Have you discussed any rate design issues with EV charging customers or evaluated alternative rate designs internally?
- Does your utility have any data regarding charging patterns for EVs in your territory? (Could be residential, DCFC, fleets, buses, etc.)
- When does your distribution system tend to peak?
- Do different types of circuits tend to peak at different times (e.g., commercial customers peak in summer afternoons and residential circuits peak in late evening hours?)
- Can your utility provide your most recent embedded cost of service study and/or marginal cost of service study?
- How are the on-peak and off-peak TOU rates set for default service? Are the on-peak and off-peak price ratios the result of procurements for TOU customers (separately from flat rate customers), or are these prices set administratively based on pre-determined price ratios?
- For utilities that offer EV rates, what has been the uptake?

PMEA will continue to monitor developments with the state planning process and provide information to the department as part of the stakeholder efforts. If your municipality has specific concerns, please contact Diane Bosak, PMEA Executive Director ([bosak@papublicpower.org](mailto:bosak@papublicpower.org)) to discuss,

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## Get Ready for the PMEA Annual Conference

Registration opens in June for the PMEA Annual Conference, September 7 – 9, 2022, at the Penn Stater in State College. In addition to the exceptional learning and networking opportunities, you will not want to miss the conference kick-off event on Wednesday evening. This year's golf outing will feature more prizes including a cash prize for the first hole in one!

This year, the hotel registration process has changed. Please be sure to read the details in the upcoming registration packet as you will need to make your hotel reservations directly with the Penn Stater.

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## Transformer Supply Chain Issues

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Administrator Deanne Criswell was on the hot spot at a recent US House Subcommittee hearing regarding the threat to disaster response posed by transformer supply chain issues.

"I'm hearing from our municipal power companies back home, with great concern about supply chains as we enter the hurricane season," US Rep John Rutherford (R-FL) said. He noted that transformers are particularly hard to source, which "puts our entire grid at extreme risks for long, long periods of time." He then asked how FEMA can help with stockpiles or to bolster supplies that are "vital for recovery."

Criswell's responded that FEMA does not stockpile transformers but is stockpiling generators to supply critical infrastructure. "What we do is support the temporary restoration of power while the private sector restores the power," she said.

Rutherford responded "I want to put you on notice that we're gonna be asking after the next hurricane. ... What has the federal government done to help these localities get prepared and have the necessary transformers? Because that's the problem, not generators. Transformers are the problem of getting our grid backup."

The exchange came during the House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Homeland Security hearing on FEMA's fiscal year (FY) 2023 budget request. The text of Criswell's prepared remarks and a video of the hearing can be found [here](#).

In her opening remarks Criswell focused on the substantial workload increase FEMA is facing. "Ten years ago, we managed an average of 108 disasters a year. Today, we are managing an average of 311," she said. She attributed this to climate change. "Weather is becoming more extreme, more intense, and more powerful. Disasters are no longer falling within certain months of the year. Instead, disaster seasons are yearlong events," she said.

The agency's \$29.5 billion budget request accommodates these needs, but also includes additional funding for pre-disaster hazard mitigation, particularly for underserved communities, she said. "We must recognize our climate crisis and integrate future conditions into our planning efforts now," she said.

Criswell also discussed President Biden's proposal to build on the Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act (IIJA) investments in cybersecurity. The new law provides \$1 billion over four years to improve state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) cybersecurity and critical infrastructure. The FY 2023 President's budget proposal includes a request for \$80 million intended to complement the IIJA funding by establishing a competitive grant program. The program would be administered by FEMA but rely on Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency subject matter expertise. Under the proposed program, funds would be competitively awarded to owners and operators of critical infrastructure based on identified risks and vulnerabilities associated with emerging threats or identified gaps within the systems and networks of the assets within their control.

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## Middle Mile Grants Available

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) of the US Department of Commerce recently announced the availability of \$980 million in grants for the Middle Mile Program. Local governments and electricians are eligible for grants ranging from \$5 million to \$100 million and the project period can be up to 5 years for completion.

The Middle Mile Grant (MMG) MMG Program has identified two key objectives: to "encourage the expansion and extension of middle mile infrastructure to reduce the cost of connecting unserved and underserved areas to the backbone of the internet" and to "promote broadband connection resiliency through the creation of alternative network connection paths that can be designed to prevent single points of failure on a broadband network."



The term "middle mile infrastructure"— (A) means any broadband infrastructure that does not connect directly to an end-user location, including an anchor institution; and (B) includes— (i) leased dark fiber, interoffice transport, backhaul, carrier-neutral internet exchange facilities, carrier-neutral submarine cable landing stations, undersea cables, transport connectivity to data centers, special access transport, and other similar services; and (ii) wired or private wireless broadband infrastructure, including microwave capacity, radio tower

access, and other services or infrastructure for a private wireless broadband network, such as towers, fiber, and microwave links.

Applications are due on September 30, 2022, and the grant notice and application process can be found here - <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=340300>.

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## PMEA Hosts Gathering at Boroughs Conference

PMEA's President, Jeffrey Stonehill of Chambersburg, and Treasurer, Jaime Snyder of Hatfield, were on hand along with PMEA Executive Director, Diane Bosak, to welcome PMEA members to the Boroughs Association conference in Hershey. As conferences have slowly moved back to in person gatherings, PMEA wanted to informally connect with managers and elected officials attending the PSAB event. Expected to be an annual event, the evening offered an opportunity to share a drink, a bite to eat and conversation about public power in our communities.

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## Associate Member Spotlight

RJ Lang Sales has over 50 years combined experience delivering world class products as manufacturer representatives to the Energy Utilities Industry in Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, and New York. We specialize in Transmission and Distribution solutions for the rapidly evolving energy markets such as outdoor LED Lighting, Grounding Solutions, Sectionalizing Cabinets, GOAB Switches, Steel Structures, Wood Structures, and Pole Line Hardware. We are also your FLIR Platinum Partner providing expert on-site demonstrations and post sales infrared & acoustic camera training for your predictive maintenance needs.



For questions, contact Ron Jordan at [rjordan@langsales.com](mailto:rjordan@langsales.com). For additional information, please visit <https://www.langsales.com>

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## We Want to Hear From You

Please share with us your exciting projects and photos for future newsletters. Your submissions should be sent to [bosak@papublicpower.org](mailto:bosak@papublicpower.org) at any time and we will use them in upcoming editions. We also welcome your suggestions for topics of interest for our newsletters.

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