



## Save these Dates!

**\*New Location\***

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!**

**PMEA 2023 Annual Conference – September 6 – 8, 2023**

**@ Omni Bedford Springs Resort, Bedford**

The PMEA Annual Conference is on the move! Next year, plan to join us at this beautiful and historic property – the hotel has hosted 10 U.S. presidents, including visits by seven presidents during their time in office. *Watch your inbox for exciting updates and details!*

**PMEA Finance Workshop – September 6, 2023 @ Omni Bedford Springs**

In person this year! Plan to join and then stay for the annual conference. Registration is now open in conjunction with annual conference registration.

2023 Trainings for Line Crews – **\* REGISTRATION OPEN FOR AUGUST\***

Registration is now open for August. Additional classes added – see below for all dates. Classes to be included for 2023 are:

- **EPZ Grounding** - August 7 & 8 in Lansdale and August 10 & 11 in Grove City  
August 14 & 15 in Chambersburg
- **Rubber Glove Certification** – September 18 -22 in Lansdale
- **Rigging** - October 23 & 24 in Lansdale and October 26 & 27 in Grove City  
October 31 & November 1 in Chambersburg

Stay tuned for more details and please remember that class sizes are limited so be certain to register as early as possible to take advantage of this free training!

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## PURPA Ordinance Available

PMEA members will be receiving via email a draft PURPA ordinance, a resolution to adopt the avoided cost rate, and a general overview memo regarding PURPA. Please check your inbox for these important documents and contact PMEA if you have not received them. Excerpts from the overview are provided below to emphasize the importance of this issue.

The Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (“PURPA”) includes within its provisions a requirement that electric utilities purchase the output of certain qualifying facilities (“QFs”) at regulated prices. PURPA requires that the rates paid by non-regulated utilities for energy and capacity purchased from QFs be just and reasonable to the utility’s consumers, in the public interest, and must not discriminate against QFs.

Electric utilities have the following obligations: (1) to make available avoided cost data, (2) to purchase energy and capacity from QFs, (3) to sell energy to QFs, (4) to interconnect, and (5) to operate in parallel.

An electric utility with an obligation to sell power to a QF also has an obligation to provide supplemental power, back-up power, maintenance power, and interruptible power upon the QF’s request.

Electric utilities must offer to purchase electric energy from qualifying facilities (QFs). A QF may be either (1) a small power production facility or (2) a cogeneration facility that meets PURPA’s requirements. The electric utility must purchase such energy which is made available from a QF either directly to the electric utility or indirectly via transmission to other electric utilities. The utility and the QF should agree to a purchase power agreement (also called an “electric energy purchase agreement”), the pricing of which is based on avoided cost, and an interconnection agreement. With very limited exceptions discussed below, electric utilities must purchase any energy and capacity made available by a QF, notwithstanding contractual provisions that might be used to limit or avoid the purchase obligation.

## PUPRA Ordinance (continued)

Electric utilities are generally required to interconnect with a QF for purposes of purchasing the energy and capacity made available from that QF. But, no electric utility must interconnect with any QF if, solely by reason of purchases/sales over the interconnection, the electric utility would become subject to regulation as a public utility. The QF must pay any interconnection costs, which include reasonable costs of connection, switching, metering, transmission, distribution, safety provisions, and administrative costs that the utility incurs directly related to installing and maintaining the physical facilities necessary to permit interconnected operations with a QF, to the extent these costs are in excess of the costs the utility would have incurred had it generated an equivalent amount of energy itself or purchased from other sources. Interconnection costs do not include any costs included in the calculation of avoided cost.

Electric utilities are never required by PURPA to pay more than “avoided cost” to purchase QF energy and capacity. To that end, PME’s legal counsel, Salzmann Hughes has prepared a sample ordinance that sets avoided cost in the most beneficial terms to the municipality while maintaining compliance with PURPA. Municipalities should be aware of the consequences of failure to comply with PURPA: FERC may bring an enforcement action on its own against any nonregulated electric utility, or any electric utility or QF may petition FERC to bring such enforcement and if FERC does not do so within 60 days, the petitioner may bring an action in the appropriate U.S. District Court to require the municipality to comply. But with this guidance in mind, your municipality will maximize efficiency in all PURPA-required transactions with QFs while ensuring statutory compliance.

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## Morrison Elected to APPA Board



Stephen Morrison, director of utilities for the Borough of Ephrata has been elected to serve a three-year term on the American Public Power Association (APPA) Board of Directors representing Region 8. APPA membership voted on Board assignments during the APPA National Conference, which took place in Seattle, June 16-21.

As director of utilities and chief utilities engineer for the Borough, Morrison’s responsibilities include oversight of the utilities department staff and operations, and the delivery of safe, reliable, and affordable electricity to the Borough’s residents and businesses.

“Steve is a strong advocate for public power and the communities it serves,” said Jeff Brediger, chair of the American Municipal Power, Inc. (AMP) Board of Trustees and director of utilities for the City of Orrville. “He will undoubtedly be a great contributor to the APPA Board of Directors and for serving Region 8.”

Region 8 of the APPA membership footprint includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Morrison serves on the AMP Board of Trustees representing AMP’s 29 Pennsylvania members, and he serves on the Pennsylvania Municipal Electric Association Board of Directors, twice elected an association officer. Combining more than a decade of experience in electrical operations and maintenance, including time with PPL Corporation and Belyea Company, with his more than eight years as a nuclear electrician with the U.S. Navy, Morrison’s leadership style is well established. He holds a bachelor’s degree in nuclear engineering technology from Excelsior College and a bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. He lives in the Borough of Fleetwood with his wife and two children.

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## Remembering Chambersburg Councilmember Hensley

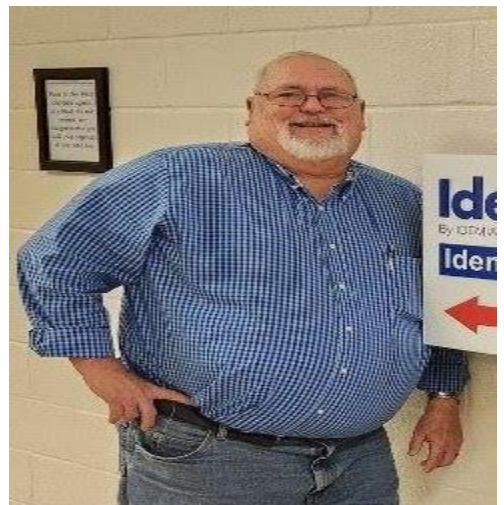
Chambersburg Councilmember Larry B. Hensley passed away unexpectedly on May 17. Born November 23, 1950, in Hendersonville, NC, he was the son of the late James Hensley and Joyce (LaRoche) Hardin.

Larry served with the U.S. Army in San Antonio, TX, serving with the medical team on a burn unit. Larry worked as a medical technologist and microbiologist at various locations on the east coast, including 3 years at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina, where he ran their blood bank.

He was proud to currently be serving as a councilman for the Borough of Chambersburg and served on the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Board of Health.

Larry was a member of South Mountain Bible Church, Fayetteville, PA and enjoyed hunting and woodworking.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by three children, Paula Parnell of Weaverville, NC, Jason Hensley of Merritt Island, FL and Jamie Bruno of Schertz, TX; eight grandchildren, Michael, Aimee, Christian, Julia, Daniel, Tristin, Victoria and A.J.; and six great-grandchildren, Henery, Jack, Mikey, Jamar, Jr., Jupiter, and Damien.



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## Participate in the APPA Cybersecurity Survey

PMEA members are encouraged to participate in APPA's [one-time cybersecurity survey](#) to help assess current public power sector cybersecurity posture and capabilities with a focus on identifying any associated needs or gaps. Public power utilities, joint action agencies, and state and regional associations are eligible to participate in this survey.

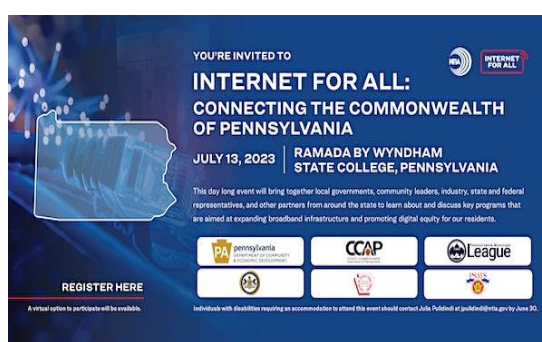
APPA is conducting this survey to gather information on member utilities' cybersecurity needs and priorities to help inform how they could best use this funding. Your response will help us to illustrate the cybersecurity needs of public power utilities specifically. This survey should take **25-30 minutes** to complete. You may choose to complete this survey anonymously. However, if you choose to include identifying information, survey respondents will receive a complimentary copy of the aggregated results.

These results will help inform APPA in producing solutions and advocating for the industry's needs as well as help lay the groundwork for members to compete for government grants that meet public power utilities' unique needs to improve their cybersecurity infrastructure. Aggregated results may only be shared with the Department of Energy to better tailor programs like their Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity Grant and Technical Assistance (RMUC) Program to help public power utilities receive grants tailored to public power utilities.

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## PA Broadband Authority Hosting Internet for All Session

The Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority, County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Municipal League, Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs, Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners, Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors, and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration invite you to Internet for All: Connecting the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in State College.



This day long workshop will be held in State College and will bring together critical stakeholders in Pennsylvania from the federal, state, tribal, and local governments, industry, and other key collaborators to discuss coordination on broadband efforts as the state prepares to receive significant broadband funds from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

To register for this event please visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/internet-for-all-connecting-the-commonwealth-of-pennsylvania-tickets-638179119927>.

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## For Sale

The Borough of Ephrata has several used substation class vacuum breakers for sale. If you are interested, please contact Bruce Haws – [bhaws@ephrataboro.org](mailto:bhaws@ephrataboro.org) or 717-738-9236 ext. 176.



- 7 – ABB R3 Vacuum Circuit Breakers 1200 continuous amp rating, 20ka short circuit amps, manufactured 6/97
  - 1 - ABB R-Mag Vacuum Circuit Breaker 1250 continuous amp rating, 20ka short circuit amps, manufactured 4/18
  - 2 - ABB R3 Vacuum Circuit Breaker 2000 continuous amp rating, 20ka short circuit amps, manufactured 6/97
  - 1 - ABB R4 vacuum Circuit Breakers 3000 continuous amp rating 25ka short circuit amps, manufactured 6/97
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## Annual Conference Registration Open

Registrations for the Finance Workshop and the Annual Conference are now open! Register today for the conference and the hotel – hotel rooms are filling quickly! The conference will be held September 6 -8, 2023, at the Omni Bedford Springs resort.

This year's conference will feature the Annual Finance Workshop (in person only) with speakers focused on ACH rules, Customer Service, EV issues from a financial perspective, and powering up municipal financial policies and electric to general fund transfers.

The conference will feature timely sessions on market and other emerging topics. This is also a great time to interact with PMEA associate member companies and learn more about available products and services. Contact PMEA at [bosak@papublicpower.org](mailto:bosak@papublicpower.org) to register today!

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## Apply for APPA RP3 Designation

APPA is now accepting 2023 applications for [APPA's Reliable Public Power Provider \(RP3\)](#) designation! This program recognizes utilities that excel in reliability, safety, workforce development, and system improvement.

By achieving the RP<sub>3</sub> designation, you demonstrate your commitment to operating a safe and reliable electric system. Currently, only 271 out of over 2,000 public power utilities nationwide hold this prestigious designation.

To learn more about the RP<sub>3</sub> program and its application process, visit the APPA website and [watch the recordings](#) of the “Strengthening your RP<sub>3</sub> application” webinar series.

**Register now** to apply for an RP<sub>3</sub> designation and earn points for your outstanding practices and accomplishments in each of the four disciplines. **The application deadline is September 30.** If you have any questions or need assistance, contact [RP3@PublicPower.org](mailto:RP3@PublicPower.org).

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## Associate Member Spotlight



### UNITED UTILITY SUPPLY

United Utility Supply/UUS has been serving the public power market in Pennsylvania since the early 1960's. This December marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of United Utility Supply (UUS) constructing its Chambersburg warehouse. Known for its culture of service, UUS is recognized as one of the leading material supply organizations serving the electric utility market.

As a full line stocking distributor, UUS supplies a complete line of materials critical to the electric utility industry including transformers, conductor, pole line hardware, lighting, underground accessories, grounding equipment, guying, insulators, protective equipment, distribution and transmission poles, utility tools, safety supplies. For more information, please visit <https://uus.coop/> or contact Jeff Shaw at [jshaw@uus.coop](mailto:jshaw@uus.coop).

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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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