



Staci Wilson is the Director of Government Affairs. She provides legislative and regulatory advocacy at the federal, state and local levels.



The **Illinois Municipal Electric Agency (IMEA)** is a not-for-profit unit of local government providing delivery of bulk power and energy to 32 municipal electric systems from across Illinois. Each IMEA Member community owns and operates its own electric distribution system. The Agency sells its members their power needs under long-term power supply contracts. To accomplish this goal, IMEA has assembled a portfolio of power supply ownership and power purchase agreements. IMEA was formed in 1984 by representatives of local government who wanted to achieve economies of scale in the production and procurement of wholesale electricity and the Agency does this by carefully planning its increasingly diverse power supply that it delivers it to its member municipalities.

IMEA backs its commitment to power supply excellence with a 24-hour-a-day, seven-days-a-week Operations Center. In addition, IMEA provides engineering, legal, communications, economic development, legislative and regulatory oversight services and an energy efficiency program for its Members. Under Management Services Contracts, IMEA manages the Illinois Municipal Utilities Association (IMUA) and the Illinois Public Energy Agency (IPEA). IMUA is a statewide trade association that provides a variety of services to municipal utility members, including advocacy before the Illinois General Assembly and other administrative and regulatory bodies both in Illinois and at the federal level, including Congress. IMUA also offers an array of training programs and activities for municipal electric, natural gas, telecommunications water and wastewater treatment utilities. IMUA also administers a mutual aid

program designed to assist members with restoration of energy services in the event of natural disasters, such as storms, floods and tornadoes. The IPEA is a wholesaler of natural gas to 12 municipal systems and two cooperative natural gas systems across Illinois.

Electricity keeps our communities and businesses thriving. IMEA's strategy is to diversify its sources as a means of hedging against market volatility, which allows our Members to have the ability to forecast their year-over-year power supply costs accurately. IMEA is committed to providing our members with a power supply that maintains a balanced portfolio of generation projects, market purchases and power purchase

agreements. Overall, IMEA is transitioning our generation to a cleaner, more diverse portfolio in a responsible fashion while ensuring reliable supply and providing stable costs to our members.

In June 2019, IMEA finalized a 15-year power purchase agreement with Geronimo Energy, taking a 50 MW stake in the planned 194 MW Green River Wind Farm in Lee and Whiteside Counties in Illinois. This cost-effective contract will provide enough carbon-free generated electricity to power 16,000 homes per year. The farm has recently begun commercial operations.

IMEA newly commissioned three utility-sized solar generation projects in IMEA Member municipalities of Altamont,

Naperville and Rock Falls. The Agency will take all the output of these facilities under 20-year power purchase agreements. Construction is set to begin this year. IMEA also signed an agreement with Ranger Power, a developer planning to put 149 MW of power online with its Big River Solar project in White County, starting in June 2021. IMEA will take a 25MW share of the solar projects output, starting in June of 2025.

The Chamber, and in particular through its involvement with the Energy Council, provides timely and effective legislative updates. Their quarterly meetings are interesting and productive.

(Pictured below) Rantoul solar site

