



## **MANAGER'S MEMORANDUM**

Prepared for: **Naperville City Council**  
By: City Manager's office  
1/30/2025

### **A. MANAGER'S MEMORANDUM**

**Source:**

1. Brian Groth,  
Director, Electric Utility

**Subject:**

IMEA January 2025 Executive  
Board Meeting Summary

**Action:**

FYI

**CITY OF NAPERVILLE  
MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** January 30, 2025

**TO:** Doug Krieger, City Manager

**FROM:** Brian Groth, Director – Electric Utility

**SUBJECT:** IMEA January 2025 Executive Board Meeting Summary

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**Purpose:**

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update on the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency's January Executive Board Meeting that was held on January 22, 2025.

**Discussion:**

The City of Naperville entered into a contract to procure energy, capacity and ancillary services from the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency (IMEA) in 2007. IMEA is a not-for-profit agency comprised of 32 member communities across the State of Illinois. Each community has a representative on the IMEA Board of Directors, and the Board of Directors generally meets every other month at the IMEA offices in Springfield, Illinois. The Board of Directors receives reports from staff and votes on agency related matters. Meetings are open to the public and the schedule of meetings, board agendas and meeting minutes can be found on the IMEA website ([www.IMEA.org](http://www.IMEA.org)).

The following is a brief summary of the IMEA Executive Board meeting that took place on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Formal meeting minutes will be posted to the IMEA website after their review and approval at the next regularly scheduled IMEA Executive Board meeting. Additional information about the City's relationship with IMEA can be found on the electric utility portion of the City's website (<https://www.naperville.il.us/services/electric-utility/your-electric-service/imea/>).

Staff have been sharing these summaries as well as approved board minutes with the Naperville Public Utilities Advisory Board (PUAB) and will continue to share these summaries with the public through the Manager's Memorandum process.

***IMEA President and CEO Report:***

The IMEA Executive Board received an update on agency staffing and its success in hiring replacements for individuals that have retired or left to pursue other opportunities. The agency has 33 full-time employees performing various functions such as running the 24x7x365 control room, legal, regulatory compliance, and market operations.

A discussion was held regarding future meetings of the Agency's Generation and Transmission Committees. These committee meetings will be scheduled to continue discussions on member generation compensation as well as the agency's potential

investment in transmission lines to hedge rising transmission costs, for its members, across PJM and MISO territories, respectively.

*IMEA Operations Report:*

Operations staff of the agency provided the board with an update on the timeline for PJM and MISO capacity auctions. These auctions are held by the Regional Transmission Organizations (RTOs) to provide market-based prices to those entities needing to procure market-based capacity. There are several ways that market participants can meet their capacity obligations, and these auctions are one way.

Generally, IMEA meets its PJM and MISO capacity obligations for its member communities through capacity accreditations received by its owned and contracted resources. The agency also has several capacity contracts with outside entities including Constellation Energy.

Staff also provided an update on Trimble County and Prairie State operations. Trimble County units have performed well through the cold weather with Unit 1 having been online, without an outage, since September of 2024. Unit 2 at Trimble County returned from its planned outage on December 12, 2024. Prairie State Unit 1 completed a 12-day maintenance outage in December and had a brief outage in January. Unit 2 at Prairie State experienced an electrical fault in its generator and came back online in the first week of January.

Prairie State finished 2024 with an Equivalent Availability Factor (EAF) of 82.51 and Trimble County finished 2024 with an EAF of 81.25, respectively. EAF is generally defined as the portion of the year in which the generating units were available without outage or derating.

*IMEA Solar Project Updates:*

IMEA is currently working to complete solar energy projects in three member communities. These projects are similar to the 1MW solar project completed in Naperville. The projects in Marshall and Princeton, Illinois were energized in December with the third project, hosted by Oglesby, IL, scheduled to come online in Spring of 2025.

Agency staff provided an update to the Executive Board on their work to secure United States Department of Agriculture grant dollars to help fund four additional solar projects for the agency. IMEA's partner in these projects, SolAmerica, has received initial funding commitments and if a final funding award is received by the USDA, it is expected that these projects (which total approximately 13MW) will come online in late 2026.

*IMEA Bond Refinancing Opportunity:*

As previously reported in the December full board meeting, IMEA is looking to potentially refinance up to \$650 million in outstanding bonds over the next year. The refinancing of these bonds will not extend the commitments of any member as they will all be paid off by the existing contract's expiration date of 2035.

Member communities could potentially save up to \$25 million in interest payments over the life of the loans by completing this refinancing. Further discussion will occur at the next IMEA board meeting on this topic.

*Closed Session:*

The IMEA Executive Board went into closed session for the discussion of personnel matters. After coming out of closed session, direction was provided to the President and CEO related to compensation of employees for the agency's 2025-2026 fiscal year which begins on May 1st. This will be included in the agency's budget, which is typically reviewed and approved by the board at its February meeting.

**Recommendation:**

Please include this response to the City Council request in the Manager's Memorandum.