

Communiqué

The **AMEA Communiqué** is a monthly publication of the Alabama Municipal Electric Authority
80 TechnaCenter Dr., Suite 200
Montgomery, AL 36117

www.amea.com

(334) 262•1126
(334) 262•2267 (Fax)

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MISSION STATEMENT

AMEA's mission is to provide for our Member communities a reliable and economical source of electric power, enabling them to preserve and enhance the benefits of municipal utility ownership for their citizens and the electric customers they serve. We strive to offer services that our Members need and can adapt to provide the best value for their communities and customers.

AMEA plans additional dollars for Smart Grid Initiative



Sylacauga Utilities Board Substation #1

AMEA is planning to add an additional \$6 million to the already \$10 million-plus Smart Grid Initiative, which was approved last year, said Fred Clark, AMEA President & CEO.

In August 2016, the AMEA Board of Directors approved a resolution to invest \$10 million-plus in a Smart Grid Initiative for the joint action agency's 11

Member utilities, starting with FY 2016-17. The resolution granted the approval of funds to be used for the purchase, installation and commissioning of Automated Meter Information (AMI) systems; the purchase, installation and commissioning of smart meters; further deployment of resource management and load management systems or programs; and electric utility system improvements such as capacitor bank installations on the distribution system, upgrading substation electrical equipment, upgrading of distribution circuits or construction of a new substation.

"This initiative serves to enhance the efficiency of the electrical distribution systems for the betterment of AMEA's 11 Members," said Clark. "Based on our preliminary and unaudited numbers, the additional \$6 million will bring the total of funds available in the Smart Grid Initiative to approximately \$17 million."

Clark added that the AMEA Smart Grid Initiative investment will be made in fiscal year 2017-18 with the funds being made available in March 2018 and will be based on an amount set by the Board of Directors.

AMEA Board of Directors support T-100 project in Tuskegee

The AMEA Board of Directors recently approved a Resolution of Support for the Leonardo-DRS Trainer Aircraft project in Tuskegee, a project which could potentially create 750 new jobs for Macon County and the region.

Leonardo-DRS is a worldwide manufacturer of trainer jet aircraft and has selected and signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the state of Alabama and the Macon County Economic Development Authority to locate a production site at historic Moton Field in Tuskegee, should the manufacturer win the contract to build its 21st century T-100 trainer jet for the Air Force. The T-100 is currently being used by the United States' allies, including Israel, Poland, Italy, United Arab Emirates and Singapore. The total capital investment of the project would be approximately \$250-\$300 million.

"The AMEA Board of Directors is excited to support the City of Tuskegee and Macon County in its quest to win the T-100 project," said Don McClellan, Chairman, AMEA Board of Directors. "The selection of Tuskegee as home to this project will bring great celebration to the accomplishments of the Tuskegee Airmen. We overwhelmingly support this project and wish the City of Tuskegee and Macon County much success in this endeavor."

"The T-100 project could be a huge economic success story for our communities and the entire state," said Fred Clark, AMEA President & CEO. "AMEA is committed to improving the quality of life as well as growing sustainable, economically-stable communities through job creation. Not only would the T-100 project create new jobs, but the suppliers who locate and build in the region would bring additional new jobs as well. This project could also bring a renewed economic vitality to the I-85 corridor in east Alabama."

This rendering shows Leonardo's planned T-100 production center at Moton Field in Tuskegee. Tuskegee and Macon County leadership hope to receive word on the project by the end of 2017.





City of Lanett

STRENGTH WOVEN IN

City of Lanett hosts Public Power Week activities

The City of Lanett hosted Public Power Week activities the week of Oct. 1-7 to tell their customers about the benefits of public power. Public power utilities across the U.S. celebrate Public Power Week the first full week of October every year to help customers and stakeholders understand how they can better engage with their community-owned utility and benefit from all of its offerings.

On Wednesday, Oct. 4, electric personnel and two bucket trucks from the Lanett Electric Department visited Springwood School and W.O. Lance Elementary School. Students had the thrill of seeing their teachers go up in the bucket from 55 feet off the ground.

Also, according to Mayor Kyle McCoy, the Lanett Electric Department placed a half-page ad in the October 6 issue of *The Valley Times-News* to bring an awareness to the special week.

Officers re-elected to BAR Committee

Officers were re-elected to the AMEA Budget/Audit/Rate (BAR) Committee on Oct. 19. Re-elected were Mayor Gary Fuller of Opelika, chairman, and Morris Tate of Luverne, vice chairman.

The purpose of the BAR Committee is to advise and make recommendations to the AMEA Board of Directors on policy issues related to AMEA's financial condition and transactions, financial audits, cost allocation and cost recovery.

Board members are appointed by the Board Chair to serve on the BAR Committee, as well as other board committees.

The AMEA Communique' is intended for internal use only.

Register now for Webinars

An internet connection and a computer are all you need to participate. As a member of AMEA, you have access to live and recorded webinars at no cost to your utility. Register today at www.PublicPower.org/Academy and click on webinars. Enter coupon code **AMEA** to take advantage of this opportunity.

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FREE! NOVEMBER 14th WEBINAR



Alabama Municipal Electric Authority (AMEA) has partnered with **Hi-Line Engineering** to provide the following 2017 Webinar **FREE** to our AMEA Member Organizations.

It's the last webinar in the 2017 Webinar Series...

\$

November 14 – Understanding Distribution Grounding - This webinar addresses the safety goals and describes approved methods for effectively grounding the system neutral and other non-current carrying equipment. Different types of grounding electrodes are covered which provide options for achieving a well-grounded system. The rules for grounding guys and insulating guys are also addressed including secondary guys and span guys. Equipment to be grounded is covered along with common methods used by utilities.

Free

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