AMEA
ALABAMA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC AUTHORITY

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Communiqué

The ***AMEA Communiqué*** is a monthly publication of the Alabama Municipal Electric Authority
80 TechnaCenter Dr., Suite 200
Montgomery, AL 36117
(334) 262•1126
(334) 262•2267 (Fax)

www.amea.com

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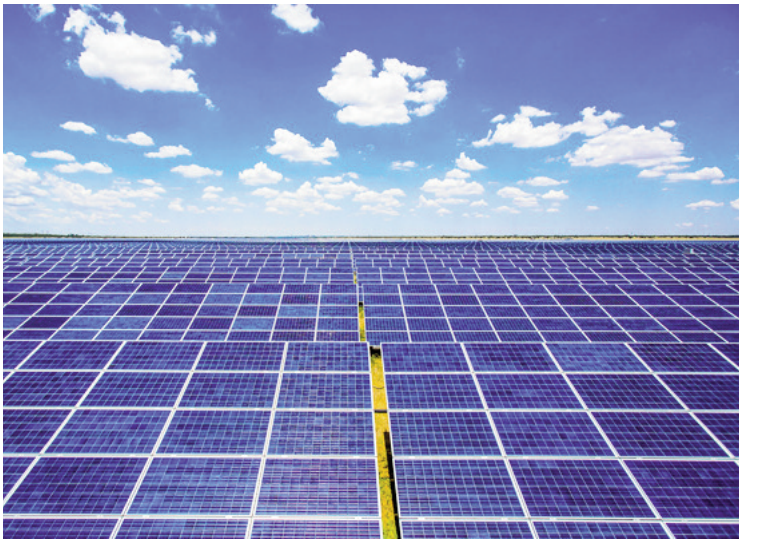
MISSION STATEMENT

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.

All AMEA Members approve contract extensions

Merry Christmas to AMEA as its Members continue their support of the joint action agency as their wholesale power provider. Before Christmas, all 11 Member city governing bodies unanimously approved resolutions to extend their contracts with AMEA.



The extension adds 10 years to the end of the current contract from 2035 to 2045 with a rolling one-year provision, unless noticed otherwise.

The Member contract extensions help AMEA achieve its goal to sign Power Purchase Agreements for longer terms to build diversity in such projects as large-scale solar, combined-cycle gas resources, and securing long-term natural gas procurement, said Fred Clark, President & CEO.

In October, the AMEA Board of Directors unanimously approved a resolution to extend Member contracts. This was the culmination of two years of development and strategic planning, said Clark.

AMEA has not had a rate increase since 2012 and does not anticipate a rate increase through 2025.

"Our goal and expectations are that we will be reducing our rates to Members on Jan. 1, 2026 in a significant amount," Clark added.

"I want to thank all of our Member city leaders for their support of this initiative," Clark said. "The AMEA Staff and Board are excited about the opportunity to reduce rates through this process."

2019 AMEA Economic Development Roundtable slated for February

The 2019 AMEA Economic Development Roundtable for Member city economic developers, their staffs and boards will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2019 at the AMEA headquarters in Montgomery. The event provides local economic developers with resources to assist them in their economic and community development efforts. Further details about the event will be available in January.

Mark your calendar for the 2019 AMEA Power Supply Conference, April 18 and 19

Mark your calendar for the 2019 AMEA Power Supply Conference, which is scheduled for Thursday and Friday, April 18 and 19, 2019 at the Grand Hotel Marriott Resort in Point Clear, AL. Conference registration is FREE and open to all AMEA Members. The conference will begin on Thursday, April 18 at 1 p.m. and conclude at 11 a.m. on Friday, April 19. Further details about the conference, including online registration as well as hotel information, will be available in January.

2019 AMEA Scholarship Program application deadline is fast approaching

Students in AMEA Member cities still have time to apply for the 2019 Scholarship Program. **Application deadline is Monday, Feb. 11, 2019.**

AMEA and its Members will make available 44, $2,500 scholarships (4 scholarships per Member city). To be eligible for an AMEA scholarship, a student's parent and/or legal guardian must receive electric service from an AMEA Member utility, and the student must attend a four-year college/university, community college, and/or vocational/trade school within the state of Alabama.

Applications are available from school counselors in AMEA Member cities, or students can go to the AMEA web site, www.amea.com, Scholarship, to download an application. For more information, students can contact their school counselor, or Pamela Poole, AMEA Scholarship Program Coordinator, (800) 239- 2632, Ext. 110, or pam@amea.com.

The AMEA Communique' is intended for internal use only.

2019 WEBINAR SCHEDULE

Start Planning for 2019.

Hi-Line Engineering is excited to offer the following webinars geared toward keeping you up-to-date on industry issues and standards.

Below are the **1.5 hour webinars** for **2019**. Each webinar will consist of one hour of instruction and a thirty minute question and answer session. **All webinars will begin at 10:00am Central Time**. Most presentations will be in Power Point format with handouts in pdf format, although more extensive materials may be available for some of the sessions.

February 12 – Impact of New Communication Equipment on Joint Use Clearances

The use of fiber optic lines in the supply space, and the desire of telecommunication to install 5G antennas in the supply space present challenges to electric utilities. This webinar addresses the NESC requirements as they relate to safe clearances for communication workers and supply utility workers. In addition, the webinar addresses methods to use for sharing space on the pole with telecommunication companies.

March 5 – Changes in Arc Flash Calculations

IEEE Standard 1584 was updated in late 2018. Significant changes were made that could change the PPE used by electric utilities. These changes include elimination of the 2 second rule, elimination of the exception for transformers below 125 kVA, and elimination of the 85% rule. Further, the calculation now includes more shape factors for arcs that are considered to be enclosed in switchgear or similar enclosures. The new calculations are more accurate, but present challenges for electric utilities. This webinar addresses the changes and the new calculation methods.

April 16 – Underground Distribution Design

Designing underground distribution differs from designing overhead distribution in terms of resiliency of the system. This webinar addresses common underground design criteria such as methods for design in underground subdivisions and commercial developments, routing of cable systems, use of conduit, burial depth, and common errors in design. Single contingency outage and overcurrent protection scheme will be addressed along with limiting factors of system components.

May 14 – Specifying and Placing Lightning Arresters

Lightning can cause 20% of the outages on overhead power lines. The webinar discusses the type of arresters currently on the market for distribution lines. In addition, the presentation discusses the common basic impulse insulation level (BIL) with emphasis on a new method to prevent flashovers referred to as critical impulse flashover voltage (CFO). The combine BIL of equipment are not additive as once thought. The CFO technique for overvoltage protection will be discussed with explanations for adequately protecting overhead lines based on ground flash density, shielding, and earth resistivity.

June 18 – Resource Planning for Distributed Energy Resources

Distributed Energy Resources (DER) are changing the landscape for distribution engineers in terms of planning and designing of their systems. This webinar addresses the positive and negative impacts to the grid from DER. In addition, how to plan for future system growth and resiliency with DER added to the system will be discussed.

July 16 – Single Phase Metering

This webinar addresses the fundamentals of single phase metering including meter bases and connectivity of the single phase meters. However, AMI metering has changed the landscape on single phase metering. So, the presentation will address new data being collected, new controls at the meter, and alarms. Specifically, what do the alarms mean and how to address alarms such as high voltage, hot socket, and low voltage. Further, the use of demand reads, ping of the meters, and load side voltage tests will be addressed.

August 13 – Three Phase Metering

Metering of three phase services is complex and often represents a larger percentage of utility income compared to single phase loads. Meter Forms 8/9 and 15/16 will be addressed including methods for sizing current transformers and potential transformers. Common wiring methods and common errors will also be discussed.

September 10 – Battery Energy Storage Systems

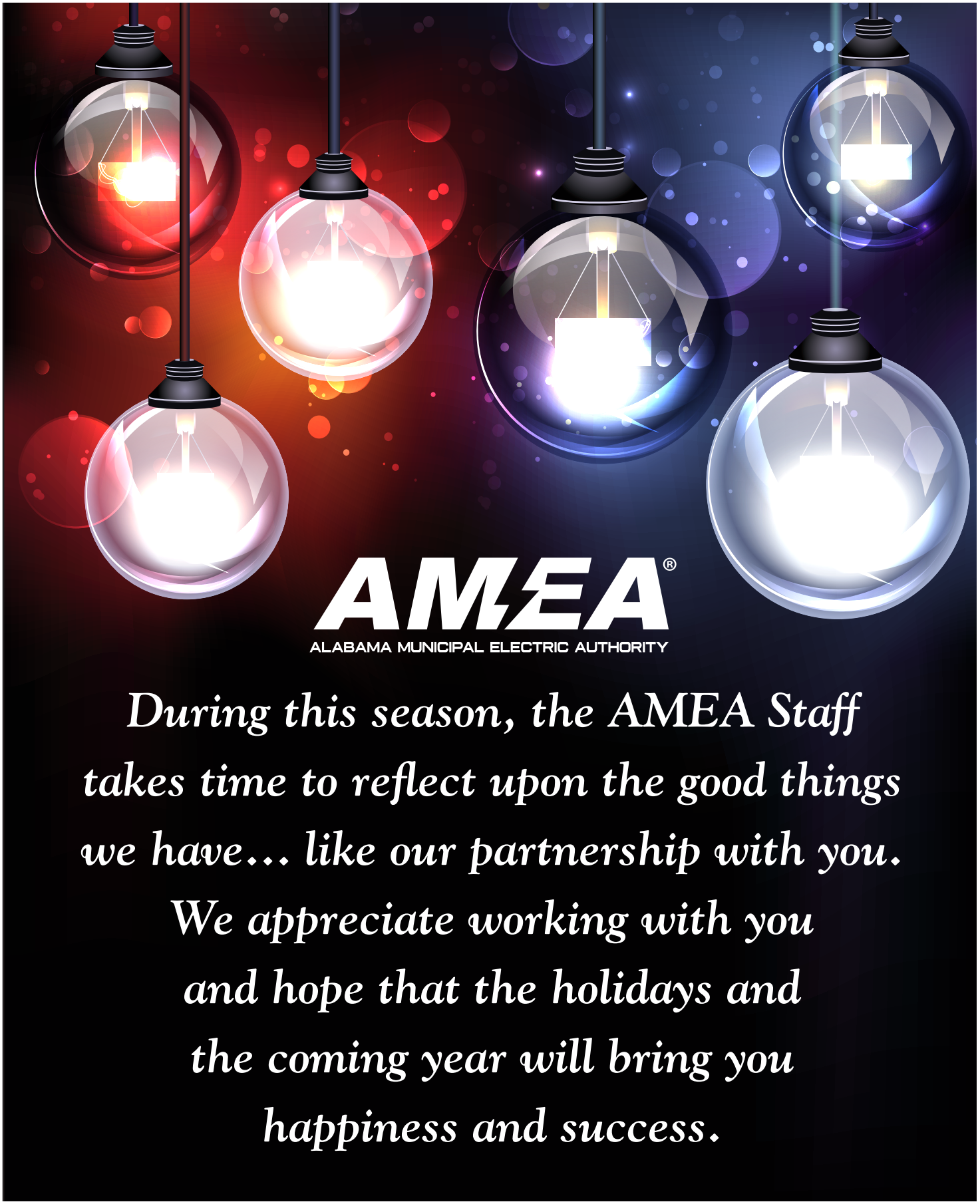
Utility scale batteries are beginning to make an impact on distribution systems to the point that some utilities are providing assistance to consumers who install batteries behind the meter. This webinar provides a fundamental understanding of battery energy storage systems. Further, the webinar discusses the application of battery storage both on the utility system as well as on the consumer side of the metering.

October 8 – Wood Poles – Standards and Design

Wood poles have been used in the electric utility industry since its inception. There are standards for wood poles (ANSI 05.1), and the NESC provides loading and strength requirements of poles. This webinar addresses limitations set forth in the standards, NESC loading requirements such as ice, wind, joint-use attachments, vertical loads and the need for strength reduction factors for wood poles.

November 12 – Application of Voltage Regulators

Voltage regulators are needed on all distribution systems and serve an important role in maintaining quality service to customers. This webinar will address the fundamentals of how voltage regulators operate. In addition, the presentation will cover application of the voltage regulators including placement, how to coordinate cascading regulators, and the use of line drop compensation.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During this season, the AMEA Staff
takes time to reflect upon the good things
we have... like our partnership with you.
We appreciate working with you
and hope that the holidays and
the coming year will bring you
happiness and success.