

Communiqué

The **AMEA Communiqué** is a monthly publication of the Alabama Municipal Electric Authority
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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.

Member Solar Research Projects on the horizon



Dothan's solar facility will be built near the water tower close to Westgate Park.

on approximately 0.25 acres.

The cost of the construction and maintenance of the property will be paid for by AMEA, said Alan Williford, AMEA Chief Operating Officer.

AMEA's project team, including Williford, Arthur Bishop, Senior Operating Engineer, and Peter Thompson, Senior Power Supply Engineer, is currently working with Member cities to help identify location, orientation of solar panels, permitting and licensing, and any needed site preparation.

AMEA is working with its 11 Member cities/utilities to construct a 50-kilowatt solar power research project in each Member community. The total cost of the projects will be approximately \$1 million, said Fred Clark, AMEA President & CEO.

The project will include 160 solar panels on a fixed-axis system at a 30-degree angle facing the south or southwest (depending on the location of the project in each community) to optimize the capacity capabilities and energy production. Each project will be located

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Solar

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Clark said AMEA's goal is to construct solar research projects in five (5) AMEA Member cities this year and the remaining six (6) in 2018.

"While becoming more competitive cost-wise, renewable energy sources must be a part of a power supply portfolio anchored with traditional resources," said Clark. "AMEA Member Solar Research Projects are meant as research fact-finding efforts to better understand all aspects of solar generation. AMEA's solar projects will be blended with our other resources, and through this initiative and others, AMEA will strive to keep our electric rates among the lowest in Alabama."

AMEA to launch 2018 Scholarship Program in August

AMEA will launch the 2018 Scholarship Program in August, providing schools within AMEA Member cities application packets. Packets, as well as posters, will be provided to Member cities for distribution at city halls and/or utility offices.

AMEA and its Members will make available 44, \$2,500 scholarships (4 scholarships per Member city).

Since 1992, AMEA has awarded over \$2 million in scholarship monies to graduating high school seniors who receive their electric service from AMEA Members.

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.

Application packets will be available from school counselors in AMEA Member cities in August, or students can go online to the AMEA web site, www.amea.com, Scholarship Program, to download an app. **Application deadline is Monday, Feb. 12, 2018.**

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.



Main Street Alabama hosts annual aLABama Downtown Laboratory in August

Join Main Street Alabama, Aug. 21-23, in Florence for the 4th Annual aLABama Downtown Laboratory as the group examines how focusing details can catapult your revitalization efforts. The LAB will be held at The Mane Room, 310 North Pine St., Florence.



Creating Jobs. Keeping Character.

Learn how cultivating volunteers, developing an engaged board, building strong partnerships with financial supporters and using public relations effectively can take your Main Street program to the next level. It's all in the details this year as Main Street focuses on the Organizational points of the Four Point Approach®.

Special guests speakers will be a part of the three-day event, with concurrent sessions also planned throughout the event. On Tuesday evening, Aug. 22, the Main Street Alabama Awards of Excellence Banquet, sponsored by AMEA, will be held. Join Main Street Alabama and special guests as the group celebrates the successes of local Main Street programs with a dinner and awards program at the Historic Sweetwater Depot in Florence.

To register, visit the Main Street Alabama web site, www.mainstreetalabama.org, or contact Marylon Barkan, (251) 516-4506, or marylon@mainstreetalabama.org.



Energy-efficiency measures in municipal buildings can reap benefits

Are you encouraging your community to improve the energy efficiency of their buildings? Walk the talk by saving energy in your own facilities. It'll give you credibility and insight into the challenges, lessons learned, and benefits of completing energy-saving projects.

Start by joining as an ENERGY STAR partner

Hundreds of other state and local governments nationwide have partnered with ENERGY STAR to save energy, save money, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Join these leaders by making a commitment to save energy and demonstrate that what's good for the environment can also be good for taxpayers and the bottom line. There's no cost to partner with EPA.

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ENERGY STAR

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Benchmark and improve energy use

The first step to managing energy use is measuring it. ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager is a free, online tool you can use to benchmark the energy and water use of any building. Use it to assess the performance of your public buildings, whether they're office buildings, K-12 schools, wastewater plants, libraries, or fire stations.

No matter what type of property it is, you'll have access to hundreds of performance metrics for each building you benchmark in the tool. Certain property types will also receive a 1-100 ENERGY STAR score, which compares your building's performance to similar buildings across the nation and normalizes for weather, building characteristics, and business activity. Once you've benchmarked your portfolio in the tool, you'll be able to identify under-performing buildings to target for energy efficiency improvements. Use energy-saving tips and guidance from ENERGY STAR to improve your efficiency. And don't forget to continue benchmarking your energy and water use in Portfolio Manager, so you can track progress and verify results. For more information, visit www.energystar.gov.

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.

- Public Power Forward Webinar Series
The Future of Rate Design **Aug. 15**
- Public Power Forward Webinar Series
Community Solar Success Stories **Sept. 7**
- Public Power Forward Webinar Series
Charging Ahead with Electric Vehicles **Sept. 26**



APPA webinars available at no charge to AMEA Members

Did you know that as an AMEA Member, you have **FREE** access to over 70 live and recorded webinars on hot topics in the electricity industry?

AMEA has partnered with the American Public Power Association (APPA) to cover the registration fees for its Members to view all upcoming and archived events.

As a Member of AMEA, you can access any APPA webinar **FREE** of charge by entering the coupon code, **AMEA**, at checkout when you register online at www.publicpower.org. Click on Programs, APPA Academy, Webinars. When you register, information on the toll-free number and link will be provided. **NOTE:** Webinar start times are Eastern time. (See adjacent schedule).

For more information, please contact Lisa Miller, AMEA Manager of Communications and Marketing, (800) 239-2632, Ext. 118, or lmiller@amea.com.

FREE! 2017 WEBINAR SERIES



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

2017 Remaining Webinar Dates and Subjects		\$	✓
1.	August 8 – Distributed Generation Interconnection - The presentation provides a detailed review and application of IEEE Standard 1547 for interconnection of solar systems as well as other types of prime movers. The discussion will include screening techniques to help speed the process, as well as how to analyze new DG units from 5 watts to 3MW.	Free	
2.	September 12 – Techniques for Reducing System Losses - This presentation will cover the cause of losses both at peak (kW) and over time (kWH), as well as accounting for unmetered sales. A benchmarking methodology will be provided to compare your system losses to similar electric systems. The webinar will present mitigation techniques to address loss reduction.	Free	
3.	October 10 – Understanding Conductor Characteristics - This presentation will discuss the effects of sag and tension on conductors from initial sag to final sag, how the inelastic deformation of the conductor affects the final sag values, and methods of verifying sag at initial installation. The webinar also discusses the practical application of sag tables to identify the sag and tension values for initial sag.	Free	
4.	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	

Please check all or the individual webinars you are interested in, complete the information below, and email to: jennifer@amea.com - 334-387-3502 - 80 TechnaCenter Drive, Montgomery, AL 36117

Company Name _____ Company Contact _____
Mailing Address _____ Contact Email _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Contact Phone _____

Webinars conducted by:



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