



AMEA *Communiqué*

Power That Works For You[®]

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P.O. Box 5220
Montgomery, AL 36103-5220

804 South Perry Street
Montgomery, AL 36104

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.

Register today for the AMEA-Sylacauga Plant Tour and Open House

You still have time to register for the AMEA-Sylacauga Plant Tour and Open House, which is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 21. The plant tour will begin at 11 a.m., followed by lunch at 12 noon. Invited attendees will include mayors and city councils, utility boards, and senior utility management staff.



AMEA-Sylacauga Plant

The AMEA-Sylacauga Plant, which was collectively built by AMEA and its Members, utilizes two state-of-the-art combustion turbine generating units fueled by natural gas, each with a generating capacity of 47,500 kilowatts.

Due to limited parking at the plant, a shuttle service will be available beginning at 10 a.m. at the Wal-Mart parking lot on U.S. Highway 280 in Sylacauga.

Attire for the event is business casual. Please RSVP to Samantha Alexander, Executive Assistant, (800) 239-2632, Ext. 115, or samantha@amea.com, by **Friday, Oct. 15**.

Member Managers Meeting to follow Plant Tour/Lunch

A Member Managers/Electric Superintendents Meeting will be held immediately following the AMEA-Sylacauga Plant Tour and Lunch on Thursday, Oct. 21, beginning at 1 p.m. at the plant. RSVP your attendance plans to Ray Phillips, AMEA Manager of Compliance and Special Projects, by **Friday, Oct. 15**, at (800) 239-2632, Ext. 121, or ray@amea.com.

AMEA Peer Review Program provides forum for reviewing utility operations

The success of AMEA and its Members lies in the ability of each Member to provide better service at a lower cost to consumers.

One way to do that is to work together to strengthen the operation of each AMEA Member's system. AMEA's Peer Review Program can help Members achieve that goal.

AMEA's Peer Review Program examines how each Member system functions so that the strengths and weaknesses of a Member's system can be found and improvements, to the extent that they are warranted, can be implemented.

Developed in 1992, the AMEA Peer Review Program provides a forum or medium by which a Member system's General Manager/Superintendent may voluntarily have that system's utility practices reviewed by other AMEA Members' General Managers/Superintendents so that suggested improvements that may result from a Peer Review can be evaluated by the reviewed system's General Manager/Superintendent.



(L to R): David DeLee, Martin West and George East are shown in a substation during Luverne's Peer Review last week.

In September, the Luverne Electric Department participated in the AMEA Peer Review Program. Martin West, Luverne's Electric Superintendent, worked with David DeLee, Electric Superintendent, City of Lanett, and George East, Electric Superintendent, Alexander City Light & Power, who served on the Luverne Peer Review Committee, to conduct a comprehensive review of the city's electric utility operations.

The review was based on a standard list of questions and an on-site inspection, which are outlined in the AMEA Peer Review Procedures. These procedures were developed by AMEA and its 11 Members.

"Peer Reviews allow a Member's General Manager/Superintendent to determine his system's strengths and weaknesses as seen by a committee of his peers, then implement improvements that, in his judgment, will develop a safer, more reliable and cost effective electric utility system," said Ray Phillips, AMEA Manager of Compliance and Special Projects.

The day-long process also involved Phillips and Arthur Bishop, AMEA Senior Operations Engineer, who coordinated and facilitated the review.

"I really appreciate David and George spending the day with us to review our strengths and weaknesses as we strive to improve service to our consumers," said West. "I strongly recommend this program to all of AMEA's Members."

For more information about AMEA's Peer Review Program or to schedule a Peer Review, contact Phillips at (800) 239-2632, Ext. 121, or ray@amea.com.

Members participate in infrared camera training in several locations

AMEA Members participated in infrared camera training sessions in several Member cities Oct. 5, 6 and 7 to learn more about the capabilities of the new piece of equipment. The product is part of the Joint Action Services Program, which was developed by a working committee of AMEA Members in 2009.

Ray Phillips, AMEA Manager of Compliance and Special Projects, said he was very pleased with the participation in the training sessions.

Training was held in three locations last week in Alexander City, Dothan and Opelika. Approximately 60 representatives from AMEA Member cities participated in the training sessions. Training will be held for Fairhope and Riviera Utilities on Oct. 12.

Dan Allen of Flir, the camera manufacturer, conducted the training, said Phillips.

"This was a great opportunity for our Members to have hands-on training while having the convenience of the training in a nearby Member city," said Phillips. "We look forward to providing other opportunities like this on future products and services."



Dan Allen of Flir demonstrates the features of the infrared camera during a training session at Dothan Utilities.

ADECA expands Local Government Energy Loan Program

The Local Government Energy Loan Program is not just for buildings anymore.

The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) Energy Division recently announced that it has expanded the zero interest loan program to include other facilities owned by eligible borrowers, such as street and traffic lights, stadium lights and other facilities determined eligible by the Energy Division.

According to Karen Clifton, Program Manager for the loan program, the Division has received many inquiries about the possibility of using the program for other types of energy retrofits that have never been considered eligible before now.

The loan program is available to any local government, city or county board of education, or public college or university in the state for the purpose of financing energy conservation projects in eligible facilities. Local governments, colleges and universities can receive up to \$350,000, and K-12 school systems can receive up to \$350,000 per campus and up to \$500,000 for each school system.

These zero interest loans can be made for a period of up to 10 years, and you will likely be able to repay the loan from the cost savings of the energy retrofits, said Ms. Clifton.

For more information about the program and to download the application booklet, visit the ADECA Energy Division website, www.adeca.alabama.gov/Energy, or call (334) 242-5321.

AMEA web site provides wide array of tools and resources for Members

To help you communicate the importance of energy efficiency to your customers, AMEA has a host of resources on its web site, www.amea.com, Energy Efficiency. The site includes information on Alabama's Weatherization Assistance Program and the administering offices in your area, links to Energy Savers, ENERGY STAR®, and energy-efficiency tips (public service announcements).



In the Members Only section, you will find Energy-Efficiency Resources. This area of the site includes information from the American Public Power Association (APPA) and the Clean and Efficient Energy Program (CEEP). CEEP, a nationwide initiative with a mission to promote and support the energy-efficiency efforts of locally-owned utilities, is a partnership of the Alliance to Save Energy, APPA, and the Large Public Power Council (LPPC). Also in the Members Only section, you will find resources such as APPA's Demonstration of Energy-Efficient Developments (DEED) Program, TVPPA's Education and Training Program, Stimulus Funding Information, and publications such as the *APPA Washington Report*, the *AMEA Communique*, and the *AMEA Utility News E-Newsletter*.

To access the Members Only section, you will need your username and password. If you cannot remember your username and password, please contact Lisa Miller, AMEA Manager of Communications and Marketing, (800) 239-2632, Ext. 118, or lmiller@amea.com.



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