

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.



Shown breaking ground on the new AMEA-City of Dothan Solar Research Project are (L to R): City Manager Mike West; Fred Clark, AMEA President & CEO; City Commissioner John Ferguson; Chris Phillips, Electric Operations Superintendent, Dothan Utilities; Alan Williford, AMEA Chief Operating Officer and Solar Research Project Manager; Mayor Mike Schmitz; and City Commissioner Albert Kirkland, a member of the AMEA Board of Directors.

ect was completed on Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 26.

Once the work was completed in Dothan, CatSink, the manufacturer of the racking system, traveled to the Luverne site at U.S. Highway 331 and 21 Industrial Parkway to start working, said Alan Williford, Chief

Operating Officer and project manager of the Member solar research projects. The Luverne project was completed on Wednesday, Sept. 26.

The fencing on both projects, as well as signage, will be installed in October, said Williford.

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Solar projects installed in Dothan and Luverne

The City of Dothan and AMEA broke ground on the new AMEA-Dothan Solar Research Project near the water tower at Westgate Park on Thursday, Sept. 21.

Installation of the racking and solar panels began on the Dothan project on Monday, Sept. 25. The proj-



Solar panel installation in Dothan

Solar

Continued from Page 1

The projects include 160 panels on approximately .25 acres of land, each producing 50 kilowatts. The cost of the construction and maintenance of the property for each project will be paid for by AMEA.

Tentative plans are to construct solar research projects in four (4) of AMEA's Member cities by the end of 2017 with the remaining seven (7) projects to be completed in 2018.

Member Training Support Program funds available October 1

AMEA is committed to assisting its 11 Members in identifying and developing training and educational opportunities to better prepare their governing bodies and employees within the electric distribution utility organizations for future challenges.

In 2016, AMEA established a Member Training Support Program to help Members with the cost of conferences, training, educational and professional development opportunities (i.e., AMEA, Electric Cities of Alabama, APPA, TVPPA, etc.). A fund of \$10,000 per Member city/utility will be available each fiscal year (Oct. 1- Sept. 30) for such support.

The following guidelines should be followed when requesting funds from the AMEA Member Training Support Program:

- 1) Preferably, when requesting funds for Member training support, Members will provide a paid invoice to Lisa Miller, Manager of Communications and Marketing, 80 TechnaCenter Drive, Montgomery, AL 36117, or by e-mail, lmiller@amea.com. The paid invoice will be used to reimburse the Member for the expended cost of training; 2) If this is problematic, the Member will provide an invoice thoroughly outlining the stipulated training and AMEA will provide the requested funds. However, once the Member has paid for the training/educational initiative, the Member must provide a paid invoice/receipt to Lisa Miller at AMEA. A paid invoice/receipt is a requirement for future funding. Failure to complete this requirement will result in the Member city/utility not receiving additional Member Training Support funding until requirement is fulfilled; 3) If the requested funding is for AMEA-sponsored training, please coordinate with Mark Ennis, Manager of Compliance and Distribution Services, (334) 387-3511, (800) 239-2632, Ext. 119, or mennis@amea.com; 4) The request can be in any amount up to \$10,000; and, 5) Funds must be utilized within the fiscal year requested (Sept. 30-Oct. 1).

For more information, please contact Lisa Miller, (334) 387-3501, (800) 239-2632, Ext. 118, or lmiller@amea.com.





OCTOBER 1-7, 2017

Powering Strong Communities

Celebrate Public Power Week in your community, October 1-7

Public Power Week is Oct 1-7. Join 2,000 utilities across the country in telling your 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.

The American Public Power Association (APPA) has a host of sample resources and templates to help you spread the word in your community. You'll find these resources at <https://www.publicpower.org/event/public-power-week#event-1>.

AMEA would also like to hear what you are doing in your communities for Public Power Week. Please share any photos and/or activities/events you have so that we can highlight them in the October issue of the *AMEA Communique*.



Fred Clark, President & CEO, speaks to Member Superintendents and utility personnel about AMEA power supply initiatives.

AMEA Distribution Services holds planning meeting with Members for new fiscal year

AMEA's Distribution Services held a meeting with Member Superintendents as well as electric utility personnel on August 31 to discuss and plan activities for the new fiscal year, which begins Oct. 1.

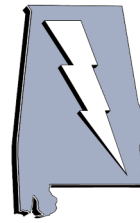
Mark Ennis, Manager of Compliance and Distribution Services, said the meeting was designed to allow Members to provide input on training needs and training classes for 2017-2018, such as transformer connections, substation opera-

tions and safety, Foreman's Academy, 2018 Safety Symposium, quarterly Operations Roundtables, emergency preparedness tabletop exercise, and operational benchmarking.

Fred Clark, AMEA President & CEO, provided an overview of AMEA's Smart Grid Initiative, as well as power supply activities. Alan Williford, Chief Operating Officer, discussed the timeline and specifics associated with the AMEA-Member Solar Research Projects, and Lisa Miller, Manager of Communications and Marketing, reviewed AMEA's Member Training Support Program.

Register today for ECA's Engineering and Operations Conference

You still have time to register for the Electric Cities of Alabama 16th Annual Engineering and Operations Conference, which is slated for Oct. 16-18 at the Renaissance Ross Bridge Resort in Hoover.



ELECTRIC CITIES
of Alabama

"Uniting Alabama's Electric Cities"

This year, general sessions will feature speakers from a variety of Alabama's electric municipalities, power suppliers and utility industry vendors who will be speaking on topics such as new frontiers in LED lighting, drone operations, electricity generation 101, cybersecurity and more. Special events and activities are also planned throughout the conference.

For more information, please visit www.electriccities.org, or call (334) 954-3221. When you visit the Electric Cities web site, you will be able to view a tentative conference agenda, reserve your hotel room, and register online for the conference.

2018 AMEA Scholarship Program now underway in Member cities

The 2018 AMEA Scholarship Program now in full swing with applications being provided to all schools within Member cities' service territory. Applications, as well as posters, have been 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.

Applications are available from school counselors in AMEA Member cities, 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.

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:
Best Practices in Battery Storage **Oct. 12**
- Wireless Pole Attachment Webinar Series:
Wireless Attachments and Other New Infrastructure
Developments Affecting Public Power Pole Owners
Oct. 19
- Public Power Forward Webinar Series:
Smart Meters for Smart Solutions **Oct. 26**



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.	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	
2.	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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BUSINESS & FINANCE



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The Energy Authority
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SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT



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*Strategic Planning, Organization
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Compensation Studies*

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MFP-Connect™
Energy Workforce Solutions

The Energy Authority
Energy Trading & Risk Management

Wortham Power Gen Insurance
Property & Cyber Liability Insurance

Turn to Hometown Connections for innovations in metering, outage management, customer engagement, management consulting, community solar, distributed generation, workforce solutions, cyber & physical security, and more.

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