

## IMGA Signs Energy Bill Letter to Congress

IMGA General Manager Heather Viele has announced that the Agency has joined 41 other oil and gas associations in signing a letter to Congress urging the inclusion of provisions to expand the natural gas supply in the Energy Bill currently under consideration.

Specifically, the letter calls for...

- ☑ Provisions concerning hydraulic fracturing (House §327)
- ☑ Clarifying the Clean Water Act to promote natural gas production (House §328)
- ☑ Creating an Office of Federal Energy Project Coordination (House §2021) - Improving federal resource leasing and permitting
- ☑ Codifying Executive Order 13211 (House §346)
- ☑ Establishing the U.S. Commission on North American Energy Freedom (House §§2301-2305)
- ☑ An inventory of OCS resources (Senate §326)
- ☑ Royalty incentives for deep wells in shallow water - Royalty incentives for deep gas wells
- ☑ Amortization of geological and geophysical costs and delay rental costs (House §§1314, 1315)
- ☑ Setting deadlines for action under the Coastal Zone Management Act (House §2013)
- ☑ Improving appellate procedures for federal permitting proceedings (House §330) - Improving federal permitting authority for marine LNG import terminals

Congress expects to complete work on the Energy Bill by the end of July. ♦

## Village of Karnak Signs New Three-Year Agreement

At its Village Board meeting on July 20, 2005, the members of the Village of Karnak Board voted unanimously to enter into a new three-year contract with the IMGA to provide natural gas for the residents and businesses in the village.

Karnak Mayor Janice Wright led the discussion and urged the board to approve the contract. IMGA Marketing/Membership Manager Mark Schmidt represented the Agency at the meeting. Mayor Wright expressed her appreciation for the educational opportunities and customer service provided by IMGA. She told the board "we couldn't do this effectively on our own."

The Village of Karnak has a population of approximately 600 residents and is located in serene and beautiful Southern Illinois. ♦

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## August to be Hot Everywhere

Weather across the entire United States will be warmer than normal during August, private forecaster WSI said July 25. And with the exception of the Great Lakes, Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states, those above-normal temperatures should hang around for September and October, according to the Andover, Massachusetts based company. WSI singled out Mississippi, North Dakota, Minnesota, Texas, Washington and Oregon as states where its warmer than normal forecast was particularly pertinent.

"With an increased likelihood of major heat events due to the warmer outlook, there is a concern that generator failures may be more prevalent in August after going through extended operations in July," it said. All regions except for the Northeast and the states of Oklahoma and Kansas are expected to be warmer than average in September, WSI said. But cool conditions in September across the Northeast will cause power prices to fall, in turn reducing demand for natural gas and allowing for higher storage injections and possibly lower gas prices, it said. WSI expects higher-than-normal temperatures in October in only two regions: the Northwest and Southwest. The Northeast, Southeast, North-Central and South-Central regions all should experience cooler-than normal weather in October, according to WSI. ♦

Source: Gas Daily

## Members of IMGA

Aledo, IL  
Auburn, IL  
Bethany, IL  
Bushnell, IL  
Cairo, IL  
Casey, IL  
Chester, IL  
Cobden, IL  
Divernon, IL  
Edinburg, IL  
Enfield, IL  
Findlay, IL  
Flora, IL  
Franklin, IL  
Grayville, IL  
Karnak, IL  
Louisville, IL  
Marhsall, IL  
Martinsville, IL  
McLeansboro, IL  
Milford, IL  
New Boston, IL  
Pleasant Hill, IL  
Pinckneyville, IL  
Pittsfield, IL  
Rantoul, IL  
Red Bud, IL  
Riverton, IL  
Roodhouse, IL  
Rossville, IL  
Stonington, IL  
Sullivan, IL  
Tamms, IL  
Waterloo, IL  
Waverly, IL  
Westville, IL  
White Hall, IL  
Winchester, IL

## Non-Member Purchasers

Corning, IA  
Perryville, MO  
Bloomington, IL - Cornbelt Energy

## New Marketing/Membership Manager On Board

Mark Schmidt of Chatham has been hired as the new Marketing/ Membership Manager for the Illinois Municipal Gas Agency. General Manager Heather Viele stated “Mark complements this Agency with his valuable experience and energetic enthusiasm. Marketing is the key leading this Agency into the future. A very bright future, I might add.”

Mark brings more than 20 years of public and private sector marketing experience to the position. In addition, he’s familiar with the issues facing small downstate communities like those served by the IMGA. A former co-chair of Illinois Rural Partners, he helped lead the development of the state’s first strategic plan for rural development. His skills include desktop publishing, publication and web site design, and the development of geographic information systems (mapping).



One of Mark’s first priorities is to travel Illinois to meet with current members in order to learn how the Agency can serve them more effectively. He’ll also be responsible for recruiting new members and developing business presentations.

“This agency is performing an important service for our members, and has a tremendous potential for growth,” he said. I’m excited to have the opportunity to work with our members to expand the reach of this agency.”

# IMGA gas NEWS

**EXTRA**

## 2nd Annual Risk Management Workshop



WOW! On Tuesday, July 19, approximately 20 IMGA members and staff had a ton of information piped to their brains during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Risk Management Workshop.

The morning began with Paul Duke from BP Energy taking attendees through the basics of supply availability, gas usage, gas storage and other trends affecting natural gas pricing. An overview of current economic

indicators that relate to overall economic growth and energy usage was also discussed. Although Mr. Duke was unable to 'indicate' natural gas prices of \$3.00, those attending obtained a better understanding of how to 'read' economic indicators.

After a brief break, Kurt Batenhorst tactics that may be used to manage a gas market. With the prices of natural no longer an option to simply look for must look to protect itself and its plain words, "what cost can we afford Mr. Batenhorst covered options collar and swap combinations, and multi



from BP Energy went into specific municipal's risk factor in the natural gas that have been seen recently, it is the 'cheapest' cost. Municipals now customers from runaway pricing. In and how do we get there?' including locking in prices, using cap year pricing plans to stabilize price.

After a buffet lunch, attendees returned Carpenter of FC Stone regarding the management of energy expense using hedge instruments to improve purchasing programs. His discussion included fundamental and technical outlooks for energy markets as well as innovative risk management strategies. He went on to discuss why and how to effectively measure risk and stressed the need to have a plan in place.

to hear a presentation from Jeff

All in all it was a well attended event that provided useful information. Attendees came away with valuable data to assist them in managing price risk and ultimately stabilizing their cost of gas.



Watch this newsletter for information on upcoming trainings! ♦

# IMGA gas NEWS

**EXTRA**

## ICE

### In Case of Emergency

After the terrorist attacks in London, people are being encouraged to enter an emergency contact number in their mobile phone's memory under the heading ICE (In Case of Emergency). ICE allows paramedics or police to be able to contact a designated relative/next-of-kin in an emergency situation.

This campaign was originally established in England and was launched in May, 2005. It is the brainchild of paramedic Bob Brotchie who has been a paramedic for 13 years. Mr. Brotchie stated "I was reflecting on some of the calls I've attended at the roadside where I had to look through the mobile phone contacts struggling for information on a shocked or injured person. Almost everyone carries a mobile phone now, and with ICE we'd know immediately who to contact and what number to ring. The person may even know of their medical history."

By using the ICE advice, your mobile phone may help the rescue services quickly contact a friend or relative which could be vital to saving your life. All you need is a few minutes to enter a new contact in your phone under the name of 'ICE' and then the number you wished called In Case of an Emergency. ♦

## IMGA Calendar

### 2005

- 9/01/ - Storage Contest Starts
- 9/05/ - Office closed for Labor Day
- 9/30 - IMGA Gas News published
- 10/10 - Office closed for Columbus Day
- 10/14 - Executive Board Meeting/Auburn
- 11/30 - IMGA Gas News published

### 2006

- 4/20/06- IMGA Annual Meeting

## It's Coming....

That's right! It's almost time for IMGA's storage contest to start.

Will you be able to predict what EIA's weekly storage report will say?

Details will be arriving soon.

## Check Us Out!

IMGA's remodeled web site  
may be viewed at [imga.org](http://imga.org)