



November 2022

# High Voltage

A quarterly publication from CEL&P

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## Q & A's with Allison Huenemann, CEL&P's new General Manager

### **Tell us about yourself.**

I am a born and raised Hoosier with family ties to Crawfordsville. I attended Plymouth High School and Franklin College. My husband, Jay, is a Wabash College graduate and my grandparents lived in Crawfordsville for several years. I grew up attending the Strawberry Festival each summer and look forward to continuing that tradition with my family.

After college, I began my career at Baker Tilly in Indianapolis and served as a contracted CEL&P employee for 6 years before taking a full-time position as

the Controller. I am looking forward to taking on the challenge of becoming CEL&P's next General Manager and spending more time in the Crawfordsville community.

**What do you hope to achieve in this new position?**

I hope to continue to foster a great working relationship with all employees while expanding my knowledge in all corners of CEL&P. The Utility runs like a well-oiled machine but one of my main objectives is to look into our processes and assess anything that we can improve on or make more efficient.

**What are your goals for CEL&P?**

One goal that I have for CEL&P is to continue to provide the same reliable service to our customers as we have been. Our current response times are between 15 to 20 minutes. I would like to maintain or improve that time so that our customers can receive the best service possible. I would also like to focus on our long-term capital planning so we can continue to improve and expand our system in the future.

**What changes (if any) can the community expect to see from CEL&P when you take over as General Manager on January 9, 2023?**

I hope that the community does not see any sort of change from this transition. Phil Goode has done an excellent job getting the Utility to where it is today and we will continue that legacy moving forward. We have done a lot of work recently with upgrades to how the community can pay their bill and access information on outages via social media and I would expect to see that expand in the future.

**In your opinion, what makes CEL&P such an important aspect of the Crawfordsville Community?**

CEL&P is a Public Power provider which means that we are owned by the Crawfordsville community, not shareholders. CEL&P's electric rates are some of the lowest in the state and we are responsive to our customer's needs and concerns. Almost all of our employees are residents of Montgomery County and most of them are actively involved in the community. As a company, we are expanding our involvement in the community by participating in downtown revitalization projects, hosting events such as Blood and Food Drives, and contributing to the local United Way. In 2021, CEL&P employees donated \$18,000 of their own money to this amazing program. All of these aspects make CEL&P a valuable member of the community and I'm excited to be part of this outstanding organization.

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**WWW.CELP.COM**



## What are Your Home Heating Habits?

Space heating is critical for winter comfort, but it's also the most significant energy user in homes nationwide. Despite this, many households have some bad habits when it comes to heating and energy use, according to a recent U.S. Department of Energy survey. The survey found that:

- 40% of U.S. households set the thermostat at one temperature and leave it there
- Only 26% of households adjust temperatures at night or when no one is at home
- 38% of households use a secondary heat source, such as an electric space heater
- More than 41 million U.S. households still use non-programmable thermostats
- Only 4% of households use a smart or Internet-connected thermostat

According to the survey, 70°F is the average daytime temperature setting for households when someone is at home. Also, it was found that 40% of households set the thermostat at 70°F or higher at night when everyone's sleeping.

### **Saving energy while staying comfortable**

If you're one of those households with a few bad heating habits, here are some simple things you can do to reduce energy costs and stay cozy all winter long.

- Adjust the thermostat before you go to bed and when your house is empty. Lowering the temperature just a few degrees on a daily basis can add up to big savings on your monthly energy bills.
- Lower the temperature when you are at home and dress for comfort. If you set the thermostat at 68°F instead of 70°F and wear a sweatshirt,

you'll see savings you can really warm up to.

- Install a programmable thermostat and use it to optimize savings and comfort. Connected smart models provide advanced features, such as remote control and self-programming.
- Look for and seal gaps around windows and exterior doors with caulk or weatherstripping.
- Change your furnace filter regularly according to manufacturer's instructions throughout the heating season to ensure efficient performance.

Make sure your heating system is cleaned and inspected annually by a qualified professional. If your system is older or in need of repair, upgrade to a new ENERGY STAR®-certified model. **ENERGY STAR heating systems** use less energy than standard units while still providing the performance and comfort you expect.

## Power Outage Information



If you lose power due to wind, rain, or other circumstances, don't worry CEL&P crews will work quickly to restore your power. Report downed power lines by calling CEL&P at 765- 362-1900 24 Hours a Day, 7 Days a week or call 911.

Outage information updates will be posted on our **Facebook**, **Instagram**, and **Twitter** pages.



## Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power

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