



I. M. E. A. LEEDing by Example



IMEA Ribbon cutting ceremony, Jan. 17

Energy Education Council congratulates member Illinois Municipal Electric Agency on their recent new headquarters dedication. The ribbon-cutting ceremony on January 17 was the culmination of two and a half years of planning and construction on the \$7 million green building project.

Silver level LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification from the U.S. Green Building Council is the goal for the new building and would be the first for Springfield. LEED certification is based on stringent national guidelines for environmentally friendly construction and promotes a whole-building approach to sustainability. The five key areas recognized are sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection, and indoor environmental quality.

The new IMEA headquarters is a 33,000 square foot three-story Prairie-style building that features geothermal heating and cooling, reduces water usage by 30 percent, and adjusts its own lighting based

on available natural light and the number of people in a room. The new facility also encourages environmental stewardship by providing storage and shower facilities for their employees who ride a bicycle to work and dedicated parking spaces for those who carpool or drive environmentally-friendly vehicles.

... IMEA wants to be an example of responsible energy use.

Phillip "Doc" Mueller
Legislative Affairs Director
I.M.E.A

The Operations area is the control hub of the building and is housed in a steel and concrete reinforced area which is installed with storm shutters and designed to withstand an F5 tornado. The center functions 24/7 monitoring power usage and outages along with market pricing and weather situations.

"The decision to pursue a comprehensive variety of energy efficiency technologies was both philosophical and practical," said Phillip "Doc" Mueller, Legislative Affairs Director of IMEA.

"Philosophically, IMEA wants to be an example of responsible energy use. By including a state of the art geothermal heating and cooling system, automatic lighting controls

and other strategies, including a high percentage of renewable materials, we hope to show what can be done today to limit a building's environmental impact. Practically, since the headquarters was built to meet the members' needs for many decades, the energy savings will mean money in the members' pockets over time."

The IMEA manages power supplies for 31 municipal utilities including EEC members Naperville Public Utilities, Naperville, IL, and City Water Light and Power in Springfield, IL.



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1 Springfield, IL Mayor Tim Davlin speaks at IMEA headquarters dedication ceremony, 2 IMEA Operations Area and control hub, 3 New IMEA reception area