Northwest Regional Meeting

November 13, 2024, Wednesday, 10:00-11:30am Central Standard Time (local time)

East Chicago Marina, 3301 Aldis Street, East Chicago, IN 46312

The Northwest Region includes Newton, Jasper, Pulaski, Starke, LaPorte, Porter, and Lake counties but open to all drinking water and wastewater utilities and elected officials who wish to participate. The IFA has applied for Certified Operator CEU hours. There is no cost to attend but registration is appreciated. Register [here](https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7938151/November-13-2024-Northwest-Regional-Planning-Meeting).

Agenda

1. Welcome from East Chicago
2. Introductions and housekeeping (10 min)
	1. Name, utility, title, professional experience
3. Assistance available from the Indiana Office of Energy Development, Julie Kempf, Policy Director (20 min)
4. The NW Indiana JAG (“Jobs for America’s Graduates) Program, Tamara Stump, Center for Workforce Innovations (20 min)
5. Roundtable, possible topics (30 min)
	1. Lead service line inventory work – what’s next? Customer notification and replacement planning?
	2. Updates on LTCP work?
	3. Water Loss – what actions have you taken to address it?
	4. Asset Management work – what software do you use? Does it connect with work order system?
6. Next meeting (10 min)
	1. Spring 2025 – Portage
	2. Topics?
7. Adjourn

The purpose of the meetings is to build on the benefits that come from neighboring utilities collaborating to solve similar issues. These meetings are for utility personnel, board members, and elected officials, and only these individuals can meet the attendance requirement. Consultants and contractors are welcome to attend when they attend at the invitation of a utility who is also attending. Utilities may attend a regional meeting outside of their region, but the intention is that they attend one in their region to get the benefits of interacting with their neighbors.

As a reminder, utilities are required to attend at least one regional meeting a year and attending is required for funding assistance from the IFA (IC 5-1.2-11.5-5). The IFA tracks attendance on a 12-month rolling basis. For example, if your utility attended on April 2, 2024, your utility meets the requirement of the rule until April 2, 2025. The list of utilities who have attended a regional meeting is available on the IFA website. <https://www.in.gov/ifa/regional-planning-meetings>

