#### **2022 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS**

# CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES WE FACE TOGETHER

UTILITIES DISTRICT OF WESTERN INDIANA REMC

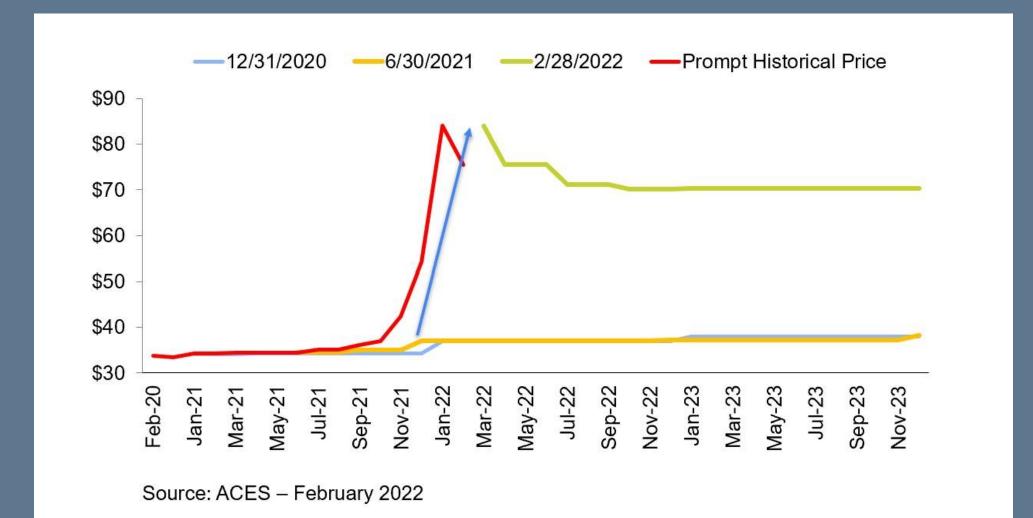


## CHALLENGES - IMPACT OF PANDEMIC ON SUPPLY CHAINS

- Coal, natural gas, and wholesale electricity prices have more than doubled since Nov.
  2021
- Current and future supply chain disruptions are impacting every aspect of UDWI's business
- Recruiting for technical positions is increasingly difficult
- Higher power supply posts will likely lead to higher costs for our members full impact will likely not hit until 2023



#### FORWARD COAL PRICES -Illinois basin





## FORWARD NATURAL GAS PRICES

Reflects storage and production concerns going into winter in addition to increasing LNG exports and uncertainty in Eastern Europe

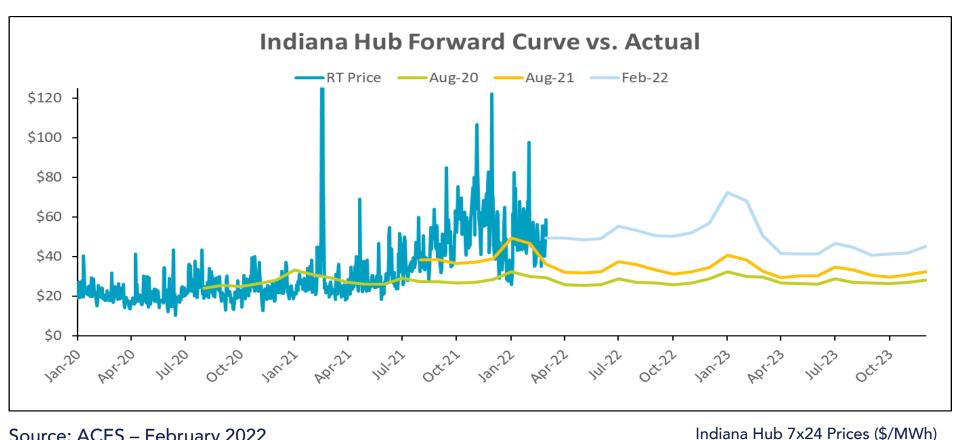


UDW vertern unit

Source: ACES – February 2022

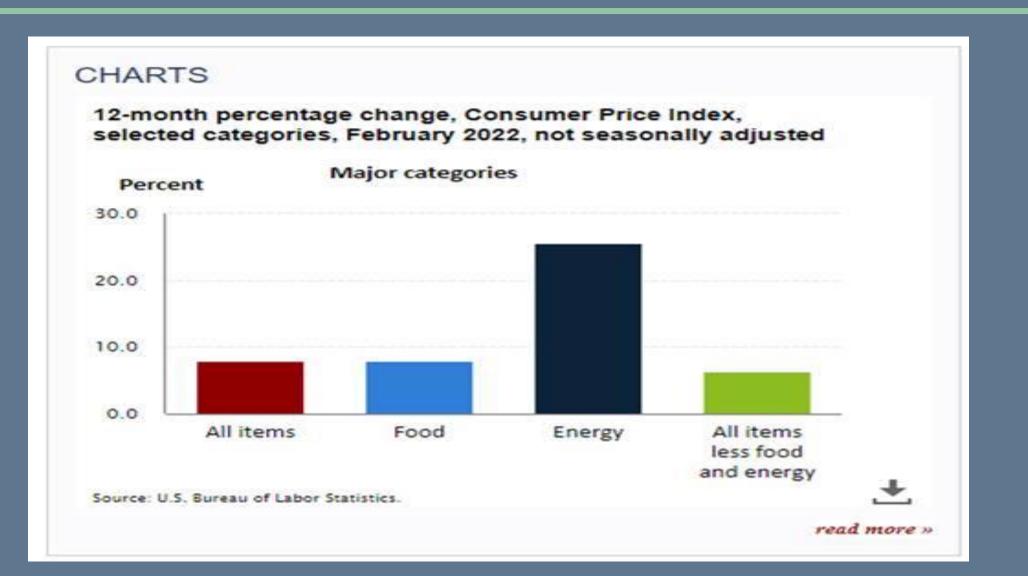
### FORWARD POWER PRICES

Increase in coal and natural gas prices pushed forward; power prices higher



Source: ACES – February 2022

#### CHALLENGES - IMPACT OF PANDEMIC ON SUPPLY CHAINS





## PANDEMICS IMPACT ON MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT

- 15kVA overhead transformers saw a 23% price increase from pre-pandemic levels and lead times went from 1 week to 16 weeks
- 25kVA Pad Mount Transformers saw a 28% price increase from pre-pandemic levels and lead times went from 2 weeks to 21 weeks
- 200A Underground Meter Bases saw a 63% price increase from pre-pandemic levels and lead times went from 12 weeks to 80 weeks
- Computers saw a 19% price increase and lead times went from 2 weeks to 16 weeks
- Lead times on Ford Trucks is currently 'indefinite'. We had to switch chassis over to a Dodge model just so we could get it this year

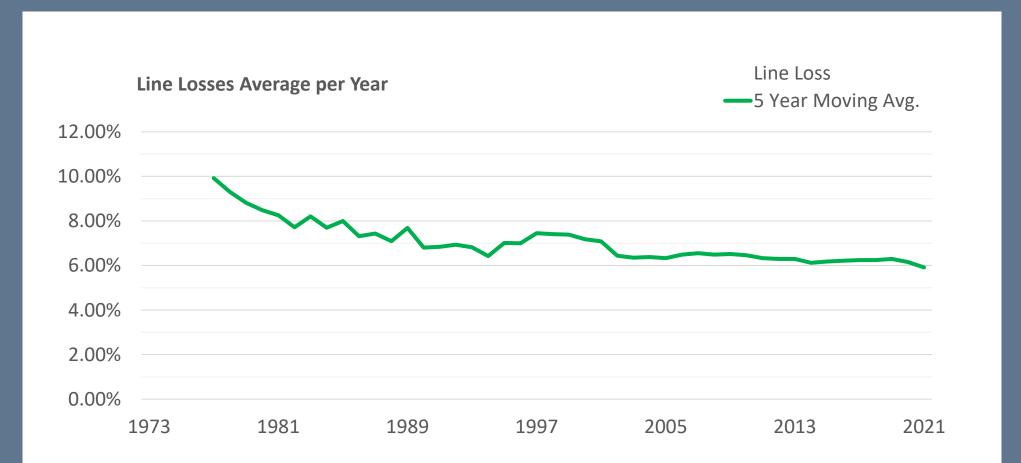


## OPPORTUNITIES - UDWI WILL FOCUS ON RELIABILITY, SAFETY, AND COST

- UDWI will continue to improve its system reliability while reducing line losses
- UDWI will implement a redesigned vegetation management program we will become more effective without spending more money
- UDWI will continue to improve the quality of its member service
- UDWI will continue to invest in our team members safety and skills training will be increased
- UDWI will use its financial resources to offset some of the power supply increases scheduled for 2023

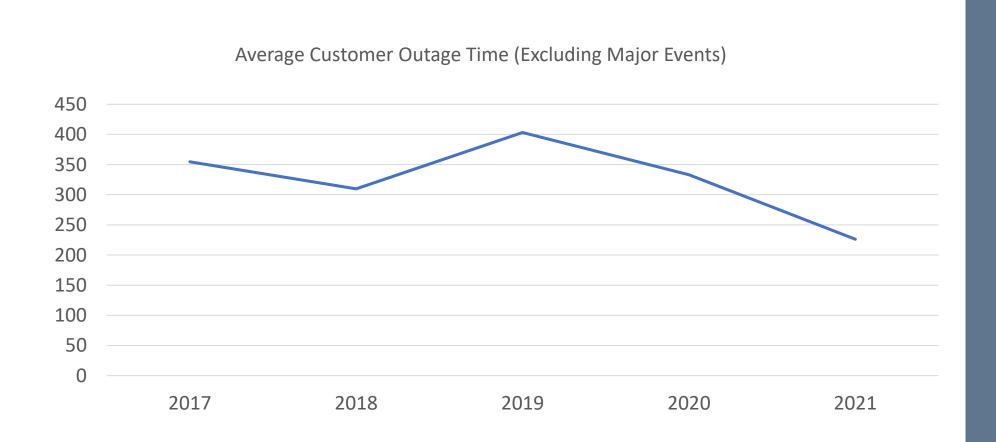


### **REDUCTIONS IN LOSSES**





#### **RELIABILITY IMPROVEMENTS**

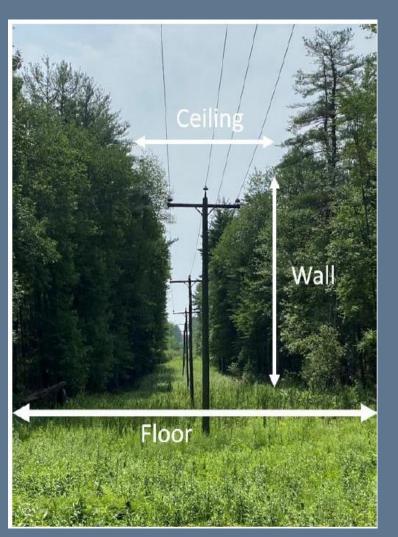




## **ROW DEFINITIONS**

#### **ROW Parts**

- Floor
- Wall
- Ceiling
- Each part has unique management methods and needs





### VEGETATION MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS RESULTS

- **Situation**: High interference of vegetation in the line now and within 1 year 38%
- **Situation**: High brush composition, some of which is currently interfering with conductors
- Situation: Currently ROW widths being cut up to 50' wide are slowing crews down to a point where a cycle is not possible, resulting in significant amounts of emergent brush
- Situation: ROW edges are being created by removing tress that have grown with biomechanics that make them suitable for the ROW edge

- Solution: Establish a cycle model (as opposed to clearance model) to work the ROW once every four years
- Solution: Create a management system for brush and begin establishing meadows in ROW
- Solution: Establish a four-year cycle model that focuses on work that is needed within the cycle, not ROW widths
- Solution: Establish a cycle model that focuses on work that is within the cycle, not ROW widths



## UDWI'S COMMITMENT TO MEMBER SERVICE

- We will be launching a new Outage Management System Target: June 30
- We will add DocuSign capability for all member forms
- We will continue to improve our online systems for Tree Trimming Requests and Staking Appointments
- We will update our payment portal to make it easier for members to make payments (Auto draft and paperless billing options are available!)
- We will complete a Customer Service survey and tailor our CSR training programs to improve our performance
- We will increase resources we devote to member communication via social media
- We support our local community through "Sweat Equity" projects



## UDWI'S COMMUNITY FUND -MEMBERS HELPING THEIR NEIGHBORS

- In 2021, UDWI's Community Fund awarded \$56,760 to 37 charitable organizations throughout UDWI's service territory
- The Community Fund receives its funding through a voluntary round-up program
- The Community Fund Board is made up of UDWI members who volunteer their time
- The Community Fund has prioritized funding charities that feed the hungry or assist our veterans



#### UDWI COMMUNITY FUND -MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Bloomfield NJROTC

Erin's Purpose



## UDWI'S COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

- UDWI will continue to promote safety and job skill improvement training for all employees
  - In 2021, UDWI employees totaled nearly 1,200 hours in training and education despite COVID-19 limitations
- UDWI will conduct a minimum of six electrical safety training sessions for first responders, local schools and community groups
- UDWI will actively participate in the RESAP certification program
- UDWI will develop a proactive Safety Committee for its HHM affiliate



## UDWI WILL DO ALL IT CAN TO OFFSET A PORTION OF HIGHER POWER COSTS

- UDWI will continue the same prudent cost management that it has exhibited over the last five years
- UDWI will make every effort to cut costs and preserve resources in 2022 to offset a portion of the increased power supply costs scheduled for 2023
- UDWI will continue to actively pursue cost reductions, power supply choice/flexibility, and increased transparency from Hoosier Energy
- UDWI will not borrow money for any capital improvements funded in 2022 or 2023









#### THANKS TO OUR MEMBERS, DIRECTORS, AND TEAM!





