



# Annual Report

2022





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# A few words from our President and CEO John Twitty

2022 was a year of resurgence after the long years of the pandemic. Of course, municipal utilities never stopped working, but there was a renewed sense of vigor in the air. That vigor could be felt throughout the MPUA Office & Training Center as we officially moved into the new space and welcomed our members for a variety of training sessions and events. It's been a pleasure to see your faces in person once again!

This year also marked important milestones in our power resources as an association. New contracts for MMMPEP and SWMPEP have enabled them to make long-term purchases of electric resources, the City of Winona joined MMMPEP, MPUA acquired both the Nixa and Hannibal transmission lines, and multiple solar farms were added to the ownership portfolio. Our streamlined governance as an organization and the completion of the 5-year Long-Range Plan were big highlights.

While it feels great to get those important items checked off the to-do list, we look forward to the countless opportunities ahead to continue to provide valuable services for your hometown utilities. We hope you enjoy this look back at 2022.



# Board of Directors

In 2022, the MPUA members voted to streamline the governance of the organization. With this new structure, the MPUA Board of Directors is led by a board chair, the President & CEO, and a chair from each of the three organizations within MPUA. The vice chairs and other executive committee members complete the 13 member board.



**JT Hardy**  
MPUA BOD Chair



**Skip Schaller**  
MEC Chair



**Darrell Dunlap**  
MAMU Chair



**Dennie Carothers**  
MGC Chair



**John Twitty**  
President & CEO

# Mission and Vision

MPUA brings together more than 120 hometown utilities for the collective good. We support community-owned, locally controlled electric, water, wastewater, natural gas, and broadband utilities in Missouri and beyond. MPUA provides utilities with energy supply, training, advocacy, and technical support. We're proud to collaborate with communities to achieve our mission of strengthening hometown utilities and improving the local quality of life.

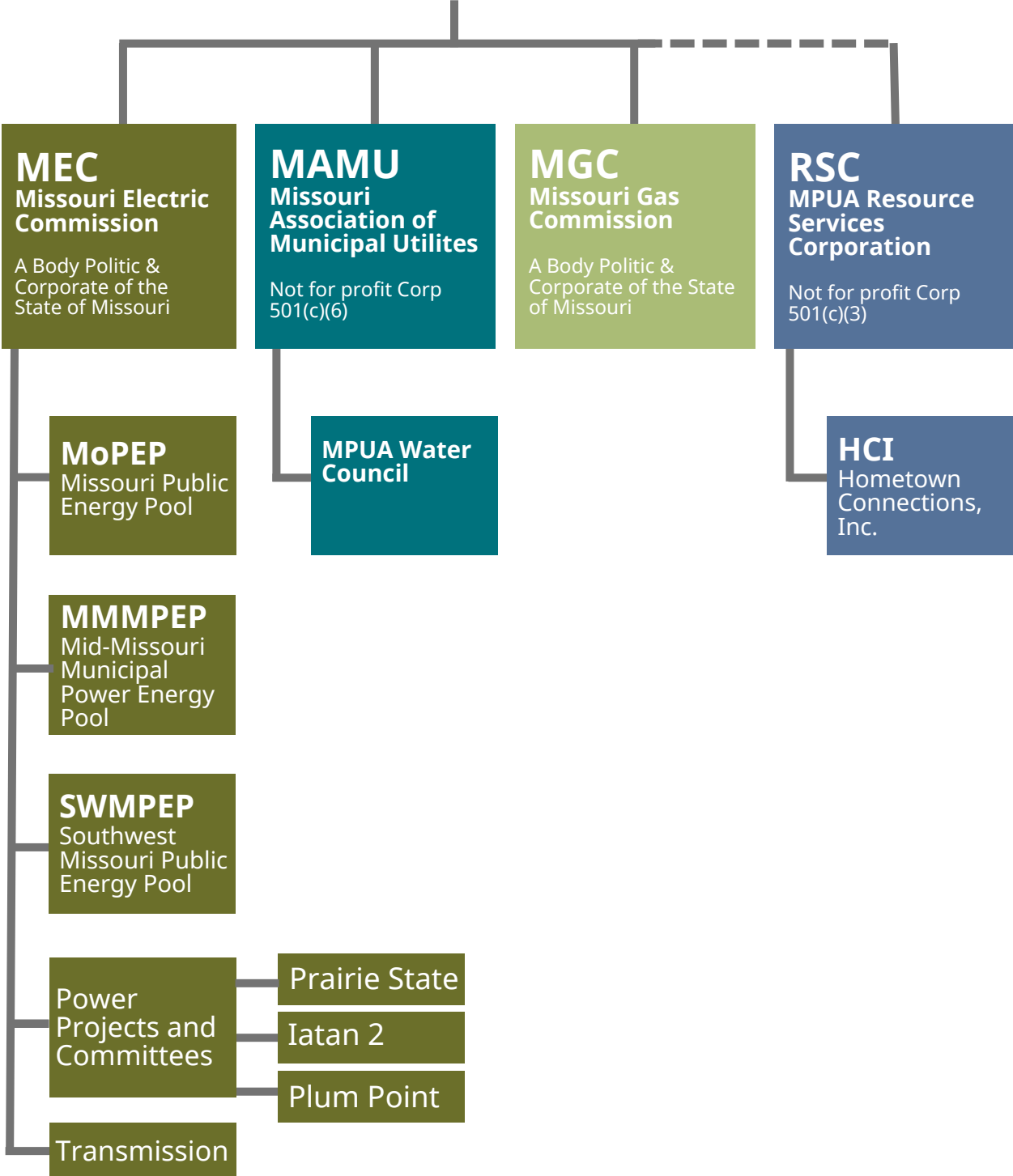
## Mission

Delivering industry-leading solutions, robust advocacy, and collaboration to advance local excellence, local control, and local benefit.

## Vision

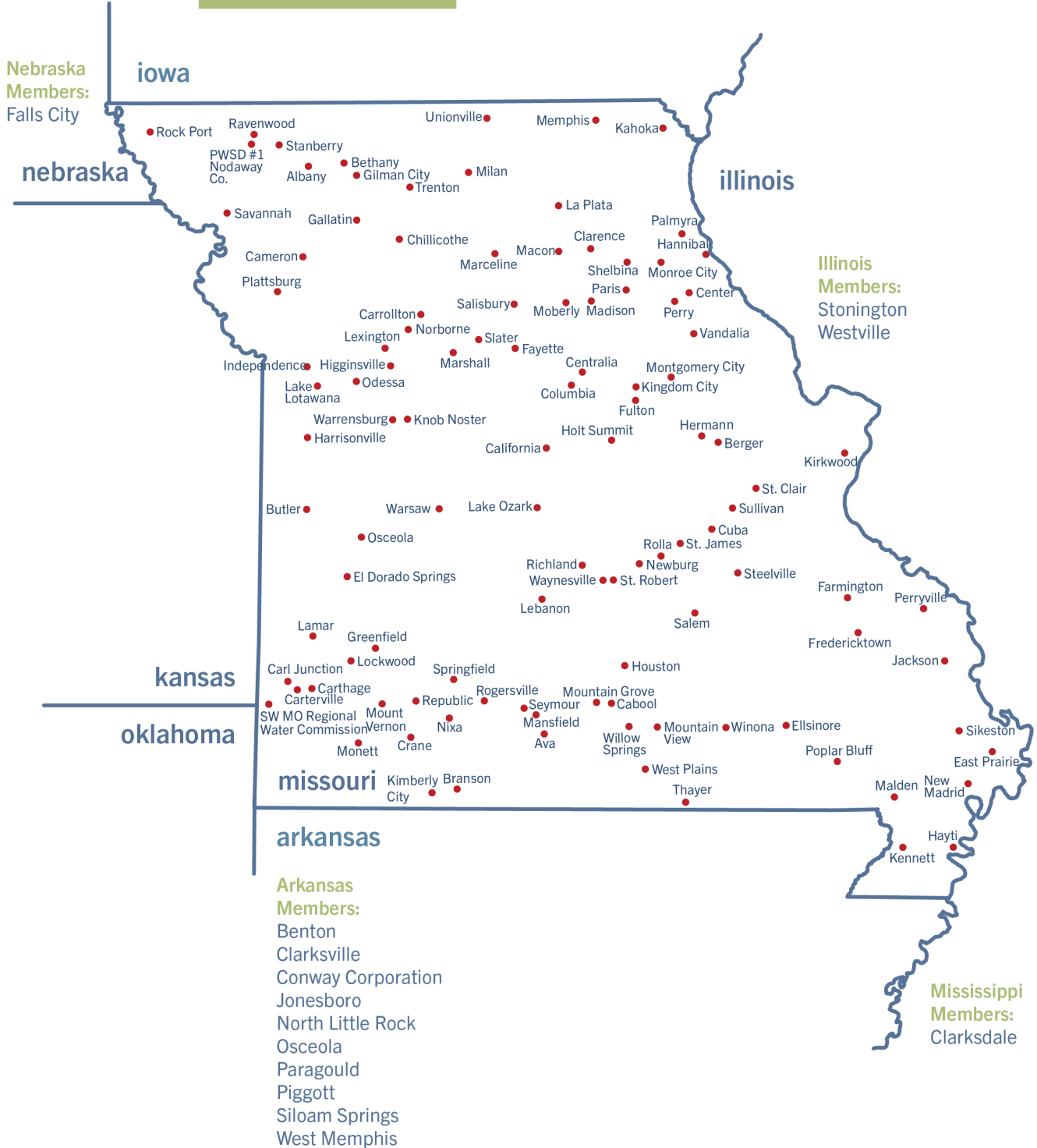
Improving local quality of life through hometown utilities.





# mamu

Missouri  
Association of  
Municipal  
Utilities



# 2022 Highlights



- 5-year Long Range Plan completed
- Winona joined MEC and MMMPEP
- Nixa Transmission Line acquisition in June 2022
- Hannibal Transmission Line acquisition in December 2022
- Great Belt Express passed on July 11, 2022
- Revised and streamlined governance
- New contracts for MMMPEP & SWMPEP that enable long-term purchase of electric resources
- Grants
  - \$150 thousand per year for 5 years technical assistance grant awarded by the EPA in partnership with Wichita State University
  - MPUA developed a variety of resources including tipsheets and workshops for grant applications
  - MPUA member hometowns received \$120 million in Community Water Infrastructure grants
- Solar purchases in 2022 including in Macon, Chillicothe, Higginsville, Farmington, and Lebanon
- Missouri Gas Commission operational review underway
- MPUA's team continues to grow, with ten new employees joining the team in 2022, either as replacements or in new positions.

# Legislative Advocacy

## State Advocacy

MPUA's session highlights:

- **Eminent Domain:** HB2005 and SB820 passed. These impacted electric transmission siting, but allowed the Grain Belt Express project to proceed. The bill imposed a 150% fair market value floor in condemnation proceedings on 345 kV transmission or greater.
- **Customer Data Protection:** Changes to the state's sunshine law pushed by MPUA were signed by the Governor. This change closes individually identifiable customer records.
- **Broadband Development:** SB820 and HB2638 passed. These impacted several broadband matters including funding claw back provisions from internet service providers (ISP) developmental defaults. MPUA was successful in expanding public system expansion for reliability and removing several provisions detrimental to hometown utility development.
- **State Budget:** MPUA worked tirelessly on several budget matters, including expanded LIHEAP and weatherization aid, low-income water emergency assistance, ARPA allocations for water/wastewater/broadband, water commissions funding, and broadband grants. MPUA was also successful in curbing a 50/50 match on water/wastewater grant funds.
- **Net Metering:** SB745 established a study group on net metering and distributed energy, which includes a designated MPUA appointee. The task force is expected to convene in 2023 and possibly report in the 2024 legislative session.

130 Direct regulator engagement hours

2301 Reviewed bills

158 Tracked measures

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# Services Highlights

## Communications

New year, new look. The MPUA service brochures were updated and all marketing content was refreshed with new branding.

## Customer Communication Resources

As an extension of your staff, MPUA develops communication resources to help communicate with your customers. The MPUA developed a variety of resources in 2022 including social media tips, a building community support toolkit, FAQs on PFAS and Medicare Advantage Plans, energy efficiency tips and communicating time-of-use-rates. MPUA also worked with a marketing agency to develop an education campaign to share the benefits of hometown utilities called 'Keeping You Connected.'

## Start of Line Crew

The MPUA-RSC Line Services Crew was ready for action in 2022. They worked closely with crews in Shelbina, Lamar, St. James, APPA and mutual aid, all while helping maintain MPUA transmission. Apprentices from across these communities said working with the MPUA crew was a valuable learning experience, as well as a helping hand.

## Broadband Committee

The broadband committee was reestablished with presentations on service rollout and regular funding updates. A fiber optic installation training course was held.



# Mutual Aid

## The 'Show Me' state shows up

Hurricane Ian was the largest mutual aid response by MPUA members in 2022. The MPUA crew was part of a combined response of 57 lineworkers involving crews from MPUA RSC, as well as the Missouri cities of Carthage, Chillicothe, Hannibal, Higginsville, Independence, Macon, Nixa, Odessa, Palmyra, Poplar Bluff, and Springfield. They were also joined by a crew from Conway, Arkansas.

The crews arrived in Florida on September 28, just ahead of the storm. They were equipped with more than 50 utility work vehicles, including bucket trucks, digger/derrick trucks, and other linework vehicles. They worked 16-hour days, directed locally by the Orlando Utilities Commission (OUC).



MPUA members also responded to several other mutual aid calls throughout the year. In April, Harrisonville responded to a broken pole in Rock Port due to strong winds. In May, Waynesville responded to a three-phase down in Richland and Hannibal responded to storm damage from a class zero tornado in Kirkwood. In June, Chillicothe responded to storm damage in Rock Port while Higginsville and Columbia responded to storm damage in Independence. The MPUA-RSC crew also responded in Monroe City after a pole was torn down by vandals. The MPUA mutual aid agreement is also used for longer-term arrangements in Lockwood and St. James.

# Water Council

The MPUA Water Council continued its important work throughout 2022. Meetings and roundtable events focused on lead and copper revisions, total phosphorus rule, regulatory, legislative, and funding updates. A new educational summit was started for education, peer networking, and opportunities to visit with utility vendors.

**130** Hours of engagement with water and wastewater regulation enforcement staff on behalf of member cities

Hours provided towards operator certification credit per attendee.

**33**

Water and Wastewater Tech Summit hosted at the MPUA Office & Training Center in April 2022.



# Alliance Awards

## Duncan Kincheloe Value of Hometown Utilities Award

Doug Colvin  
CITY OF NIXA

## Jack Swearingen Seven Hats Award

Dennis Klusmeyer  
CITY OF SHELBYNA

## Richard E Malon Public Service Award

Representative Cody Smith  
Senator Lincoln Hough

## Paul Jensen Individual Achievement Award

Rick McKinley  
KIRKWOOD ELECTRIC

## Robert Williams System Achievement Award

City of Butler  
City of Kirkwood

# National Awards

## APPA Larry Hobart Seven Hats Award

Derek Brown  
CITY OF ALBANY

## APPA Smart Energy Provider

City Utilities of Springfield

## APPA Public Communications Award

Conway Corporation, AR

## RP3 Designations

City of Jackson  
Rolla Municipal Utilities

## APPA Safety Award of Excellence

Hannibal                      Monett  
Higginsville                Clarksville, AR  
Jackson



## Certificates of Excellence in Reliability

Chillicothe	Rolla
Columbia	Waynesville
Farmington	Clarksville, AR
Independence	Siloam Springs, AR
Kennett	
Lebanon	
Marshall	
Monett	
Nixa	

# Training & Education

## Annual Conference

The 2022 Annual Conference was held in-person for the first time in three years in Springfield, MO. The 3-day conference had a record number of attendees.

## Roundtables

MPUA hosted a variety of utility roundtable events for members to connect and network in Columbia, Harrisonville, Mountain View, Chillicothe and Rolla. Specialty roundtable events were also hosted for staff working in public communications and human resources.

## Water/Wastewater Training

MPUA hosted water/wastewater training mainly focusing on lead and copper rule revisions.

## Tech Summit

The Water and Wastewater Tech Summit was hosted at MPUA for the first time in 2022, with 52 attendees and featured 12 vendor booths.

## Electric Training

Electric training in 2022 covered National Electric Safety Code changes, Grid Impact of Electric Vehicles, Energy Efficiency Basics, Advanced Transformers, Advanced Hot Sticking, Rubber Glove and Cover, and Substations.

## General

In addition to specific utility training and education, we also hosted a supervisory leadership class and Sunshine Law training.



# Apprentice Training

Since the inception of the apprentice training program in 1989, there have been a total of 790 apprentices that have graduated to Journeyman Lineworker status. To continue the program's success the program is continually reviewed. The testing of hands-on skills started in 2022 at the direction of the Lineworker Advisory Committee, in addition to the regular written exams.

**4570**

**Hands-on Training Hours**

**828**

**Advanced Training Hours**

**154**

**Apprentices Trained**

**35**

**Completed 4-year training program**

# Missouri Gas Commission

2022 was a year of development for the Missouri Gas Commission (MGC). Members analyzed and began revamping their processes in order to provide more enhanced pricing, and the opportunity for members to 'customize' the services MGPU provides. MGC also worked towards efforts to prepay for natural gas. These talks are ongoing with hopes for a deal to be finalized in 2023.

The year was bookmarked with colder than usual temperatures in the first and fourth quarters, causing gas sales and purchases to increase.

\$3.41/MMBtu budgeted cost  
\$5/MMBtu actual cost

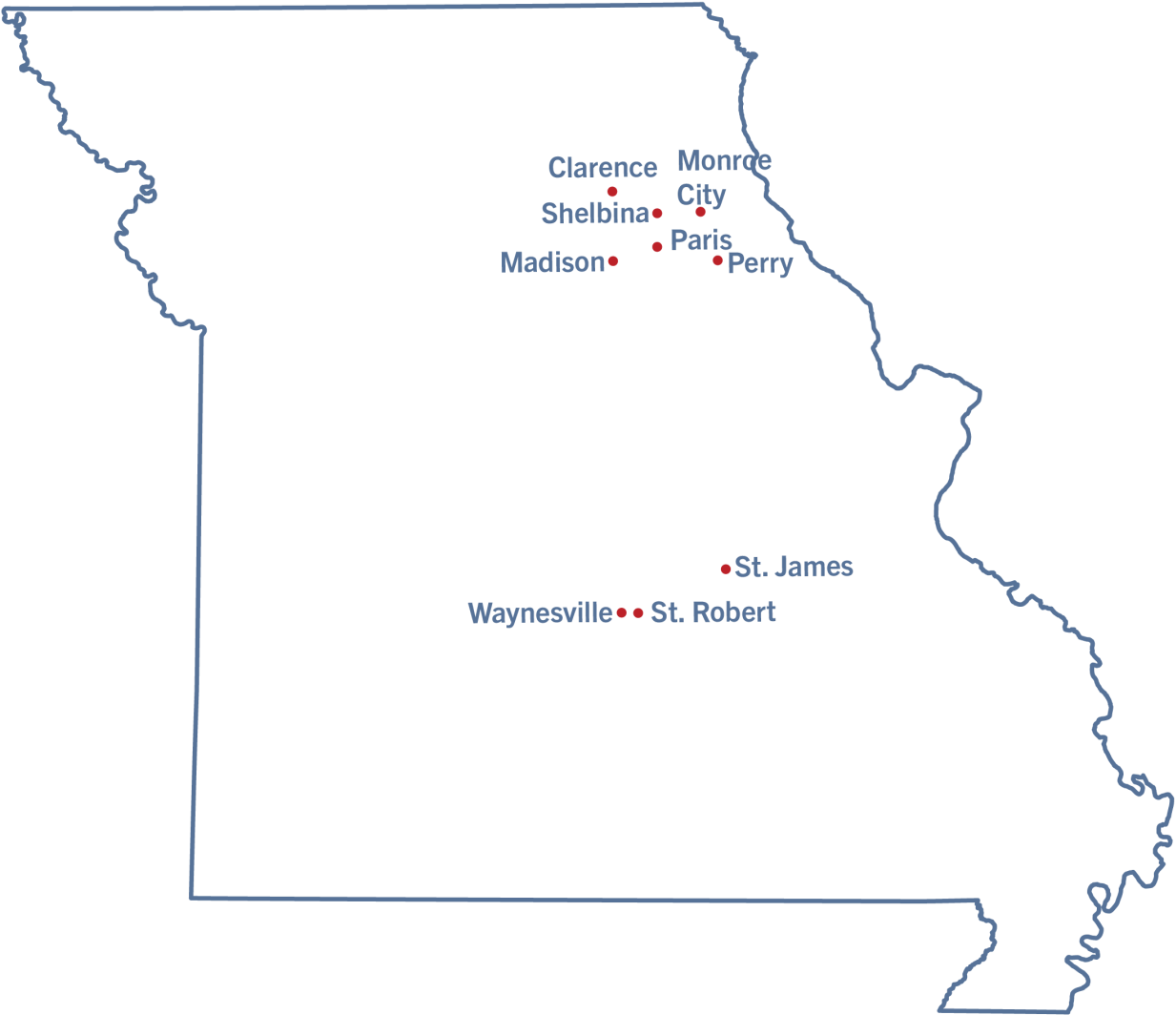
MGC also said farewell to long-time consultant, Jerry Feller, as he stepped down from his 15-year advisory role in December. He is credited with playing an essential role in MGC's development of a long-term gas supply contract that provides lower-cost energy for hometown natural gas utilities.





11 Members

Illinois:  
Stonington  
Westville



# Missouri Electric Commission

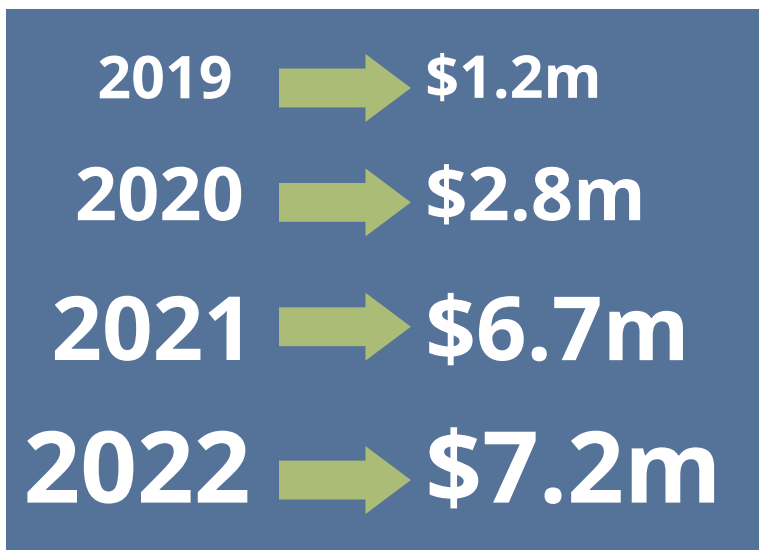
2022 showed the importance of having a diversity of resources to lower risk during extreme weather conditions and fuel specific disruptions.

Advisories were called in early Spring and late December in both the SPP and MISO market. The weather and resource adequacy were the causes of the alerts, but none were as severe as what was seen in 2021 during Winter Storm Uri.

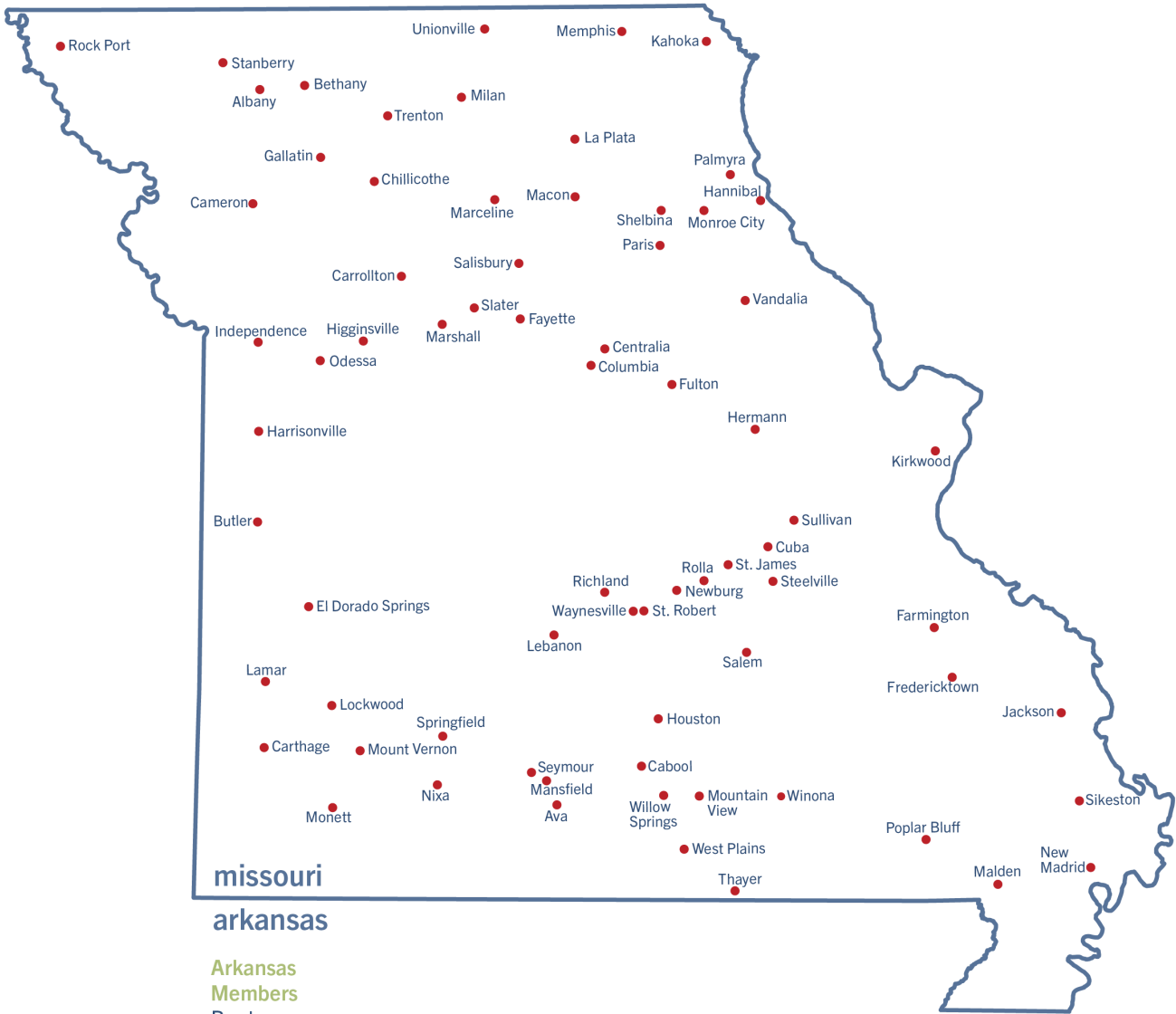
Volatile natural gas prices played a big role in electric prices, as well as unit retirements and coal delivery issues that shortened the supply stack and caused high prices, especially in times of low wind output.

The Southwest Missouri Public Energy Pool (SWMPEP) and the Mid-Missouri Municipal Power Energy Pool (MMMPEP) approved new contracts that enable the groups to enter into long-term electric contracts for a more diverse resource mix to hedge risks. This is similar to what the Missouri Public Energy Pool (MoPEP) has done for many years. Even though each of these pools operate separately, when planning for resources all receive the benefit of joint purchasing to achieve economies of scale.

## Wholesale Power Operational Savings



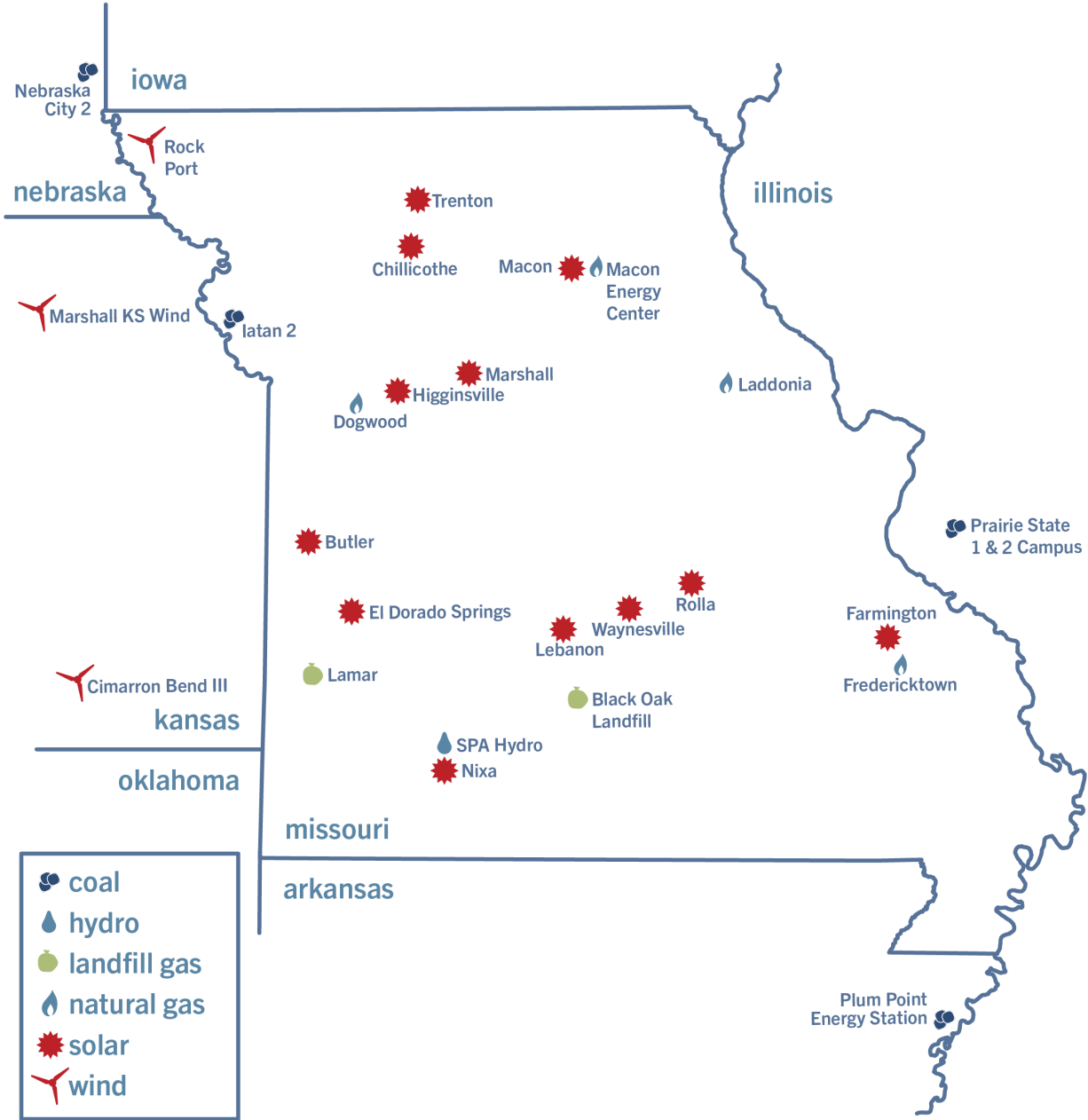
**MEC sales in 2022**  
**5.5 million MWH**



missouri  
arkansas

- Arkansas Members**  
Benton  
North Little Rock  
Osceola  
Piggott

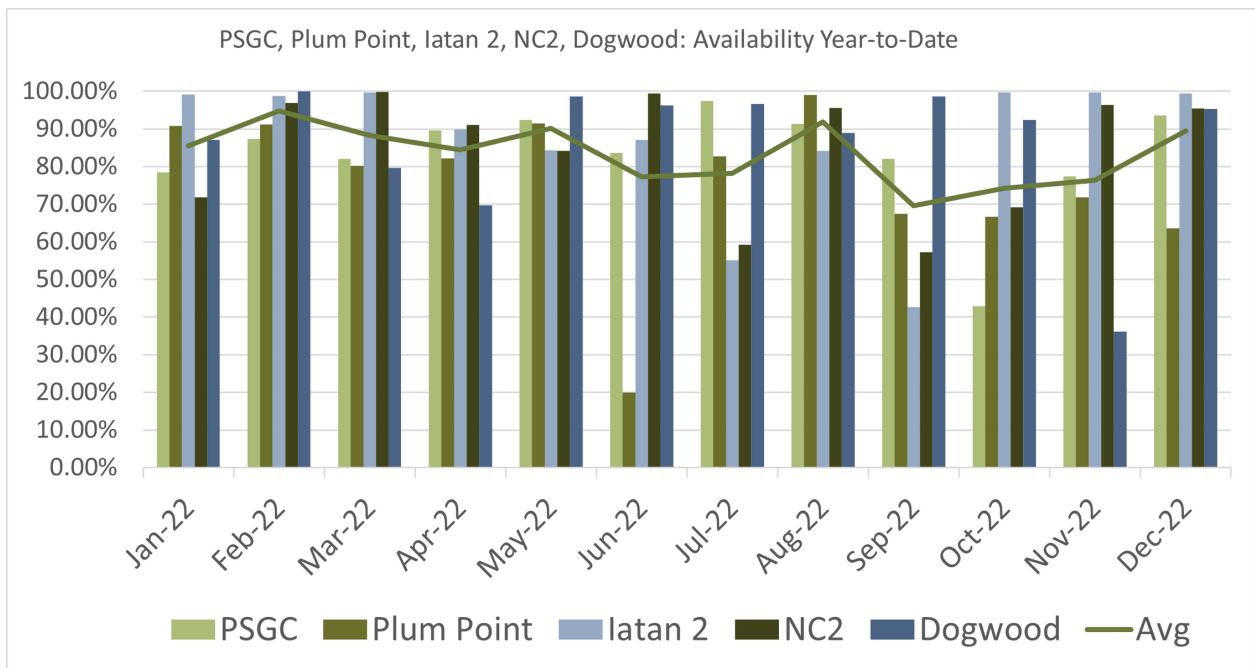
**mec**  
Power Generation Projects



## Winter Storm Elliott tests generation

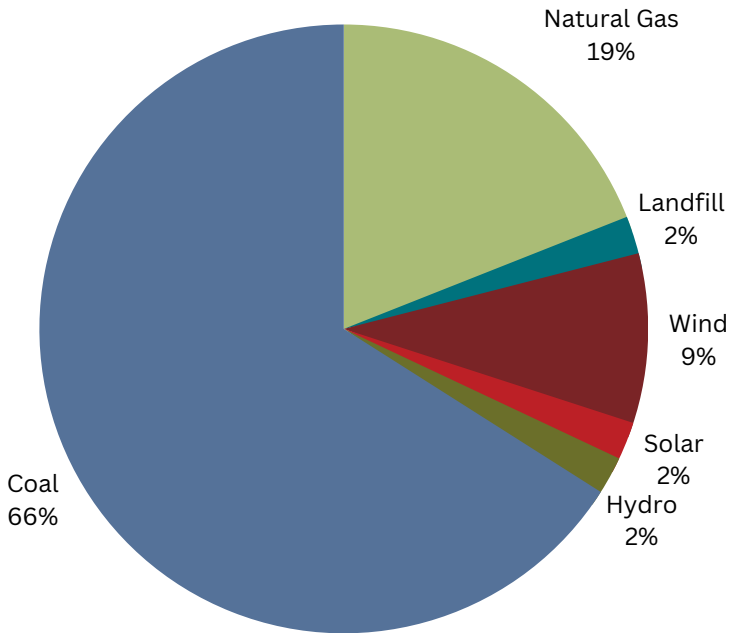
- Prairie State's overall performance in December helped make 2022 the third highest year for generation at 11.6 million MWhs and it performed well during December's Winter Storm Elliott.
- Plum Point's management changes were made to address operational issues that built during 2022, culminating with Elliott.
- Dogwood, Iatan II and Nebraska City 2 performed well except for some small issues for Nebraska at the start of Winter Storm Elliott.

## MPUA Electric Generation Resources Availability 2022



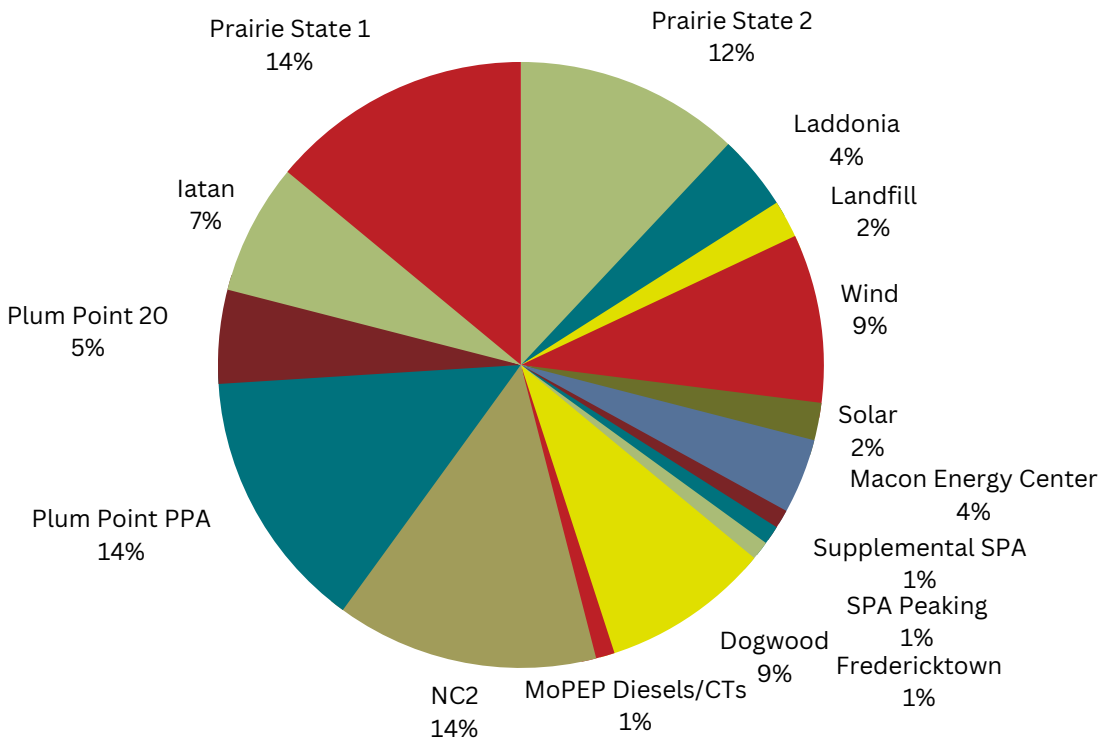
# MoPEP

## 2022 MoPEP Generation by Fuel

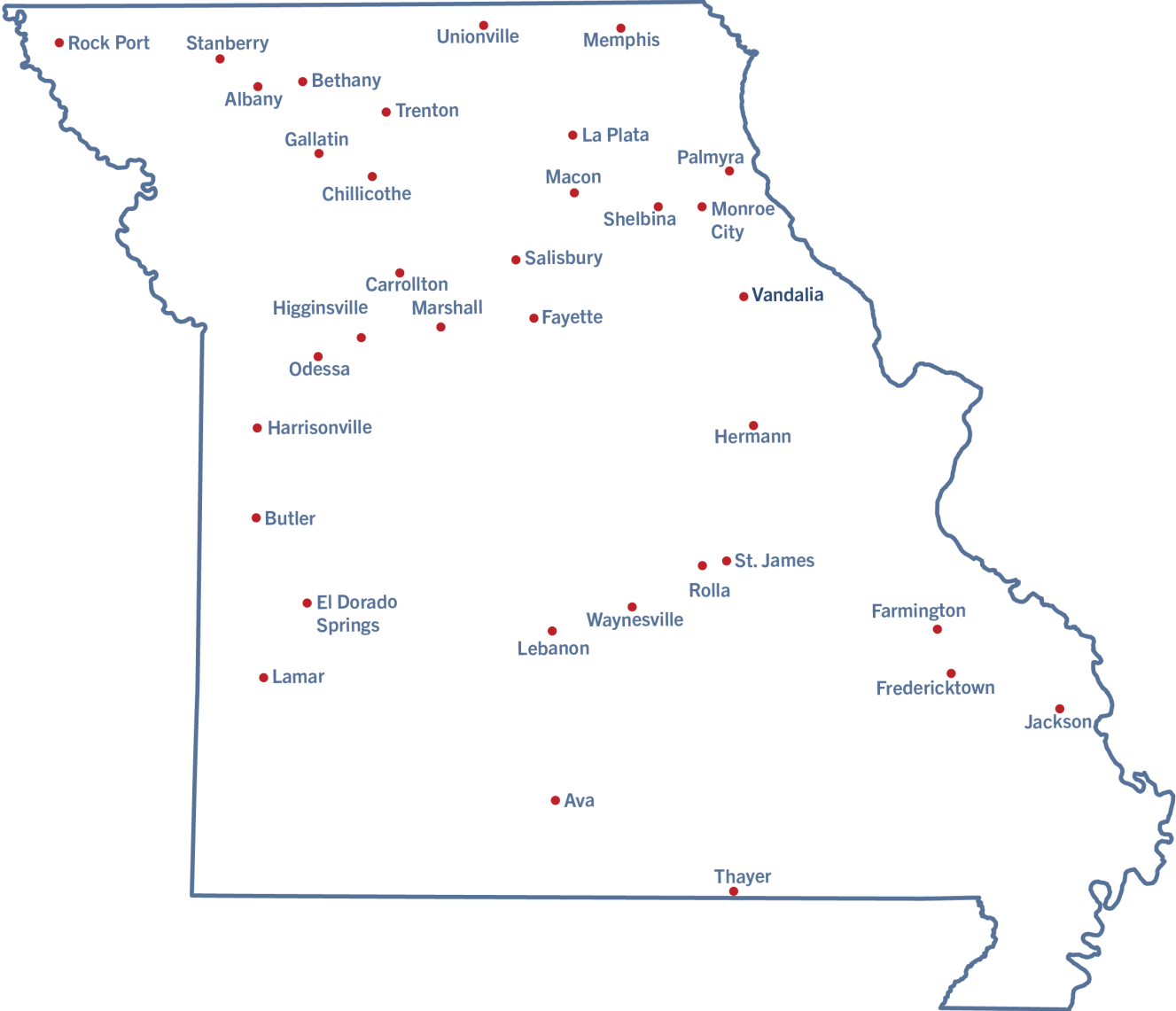


New peak on July 5, 2022  
Hour Ending 17:00 - 531 MW

## 2022 MoPEP Generation MWhs by Resource

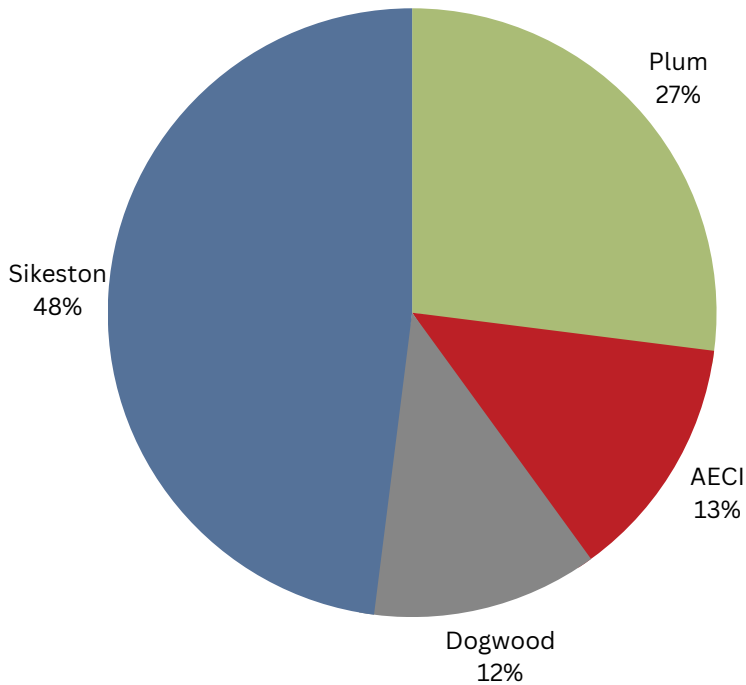


**mopep**  
Missouri  
Public Energy Pool  
35 members



# MMMPEP

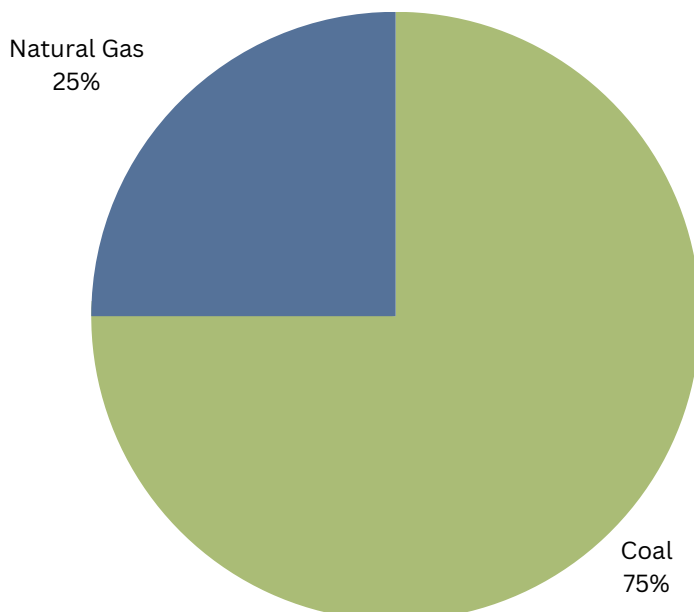
## 2022 MMMPEP Generation by Source



### Highlights:

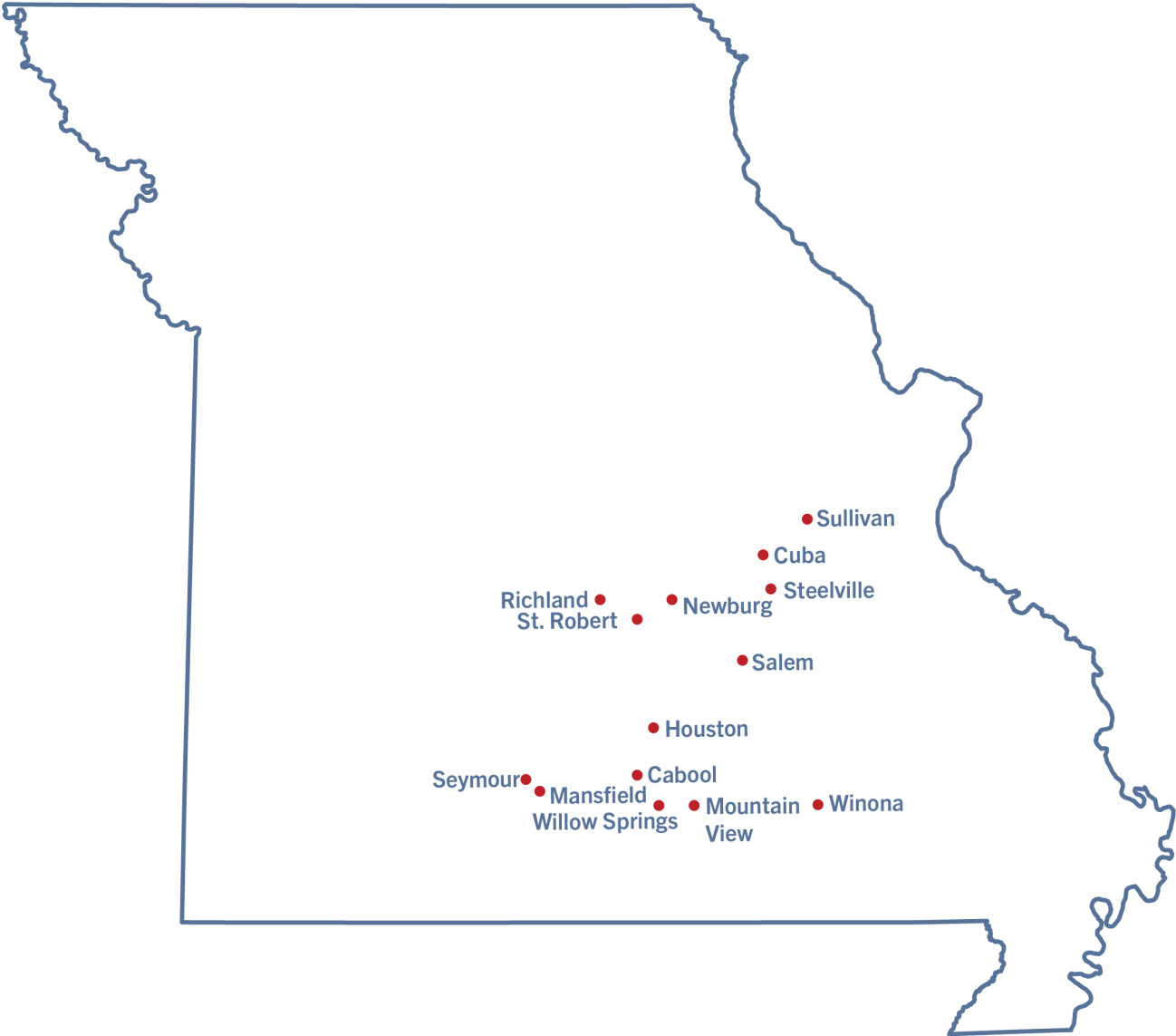
- New peak on December 23, 2022
  - Hour Ending 10:00 - 121.9 MW
- Approved a new contract that enables MMMPEP to enter into long-term electric contracts for a more diverse resource mix and to hedge risks.
- Winona joined MMMPEP. They started receiving electricity on January 1, 2023.

## 2022 MMMPEP Generation by Fuel



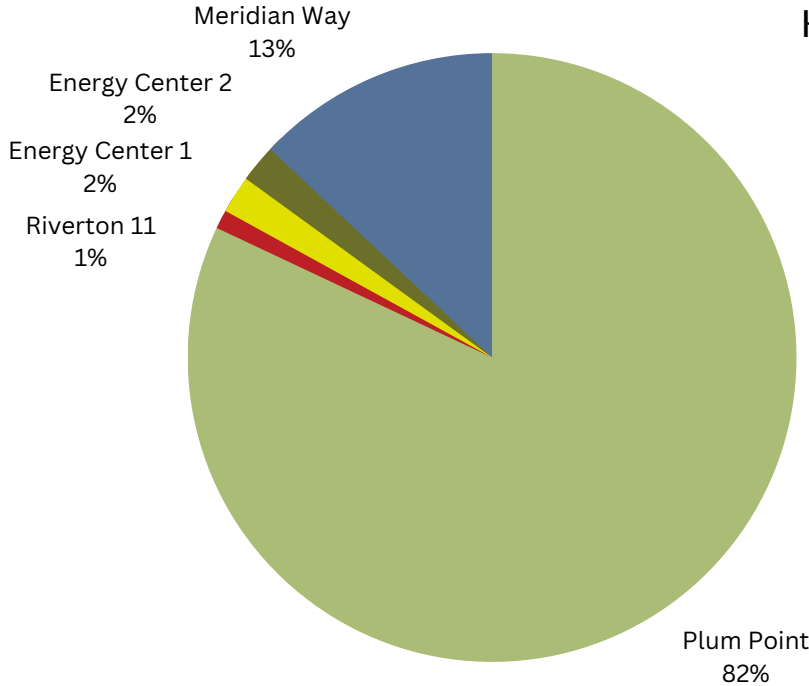
**mmmpep**  
Mid-Missouri  
Municipal Public  
Energy Pool

Missouri:  
14 members



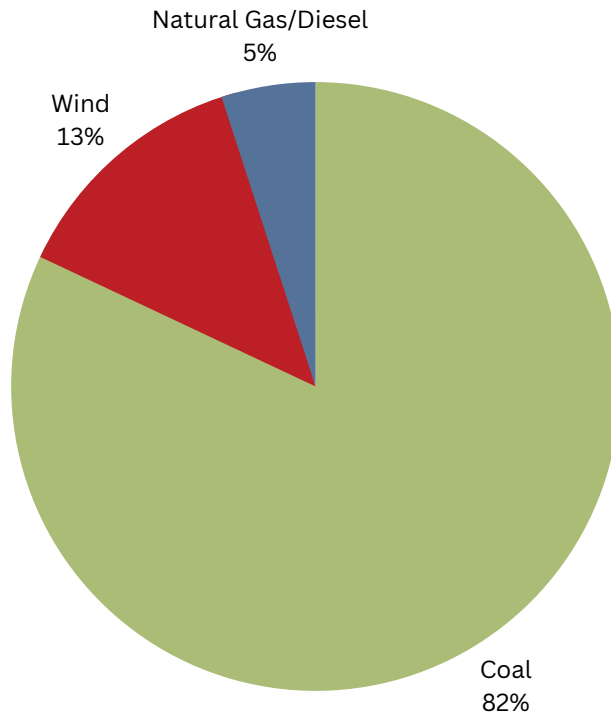
# SWMPEP

## 2022 SWMPEP Generation by Source



### Highlights:

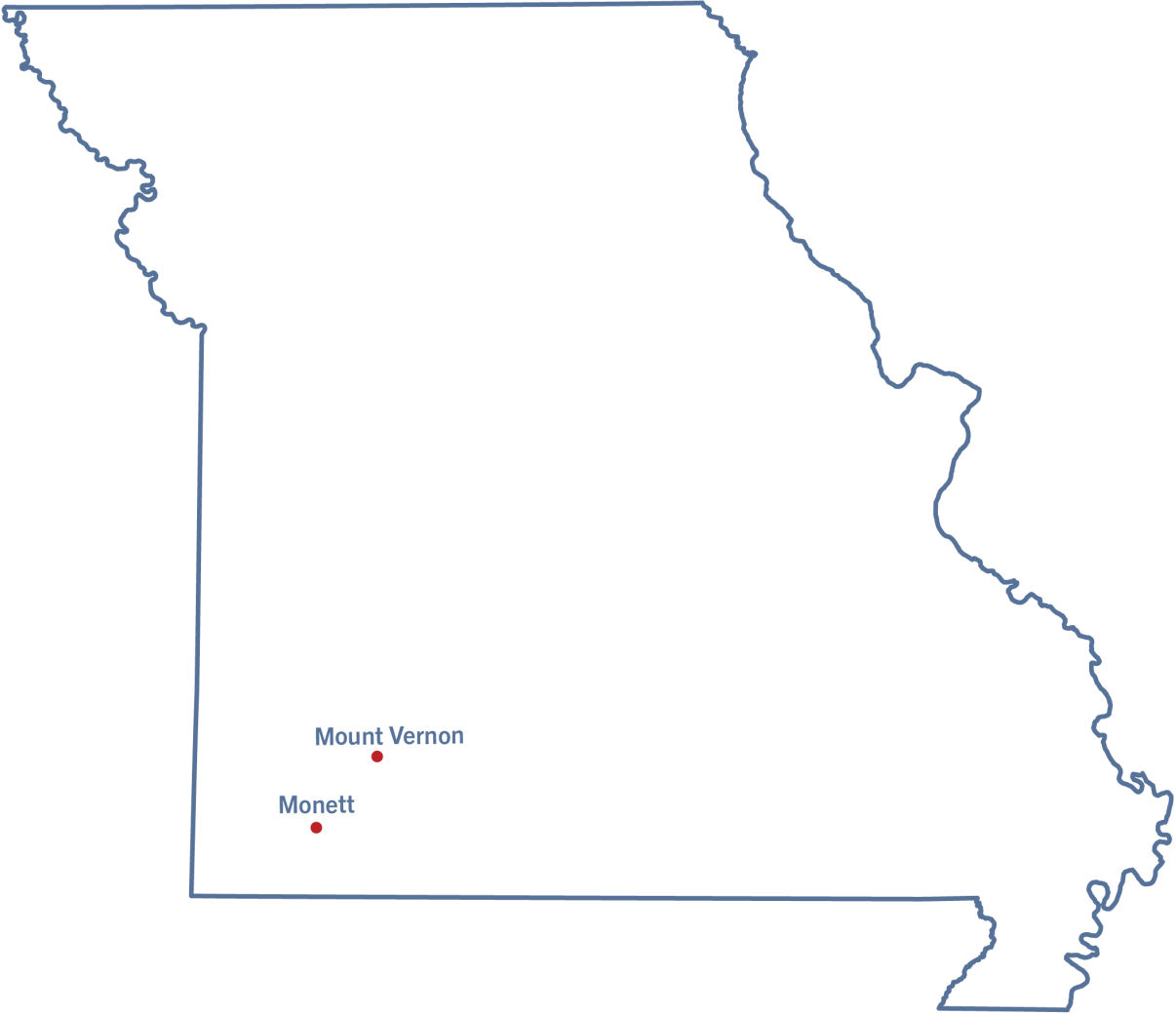
- New peak on July 26, 2022
  - Hour Ending 15:00 - 61.8 MW
- Approved a new contract that enables SWMPEP to enter into long-term electric contracts for a more diverse resource mix and to hedge risks.



**swmpep**

Southwest  
Missouri Public  
Energy Pool

Missouri:  
2 members



# Financial Highlights

- Changes in financial positions from 2021 to 2022 were due to Winter Storm Uri's extended high prices for electricity and natural gas.
- MPUA's old office was sold later in 2022 than anticipated, which is reflected in the debt service numbers.
- Associate member dues were up as more utility vendors joined MPUA.
- MPUA personnel costs were lower than expected. This was due to a lack of qualified candidates applying for open positions. This can be attributed to general attrition being experienced by the entire utility industry during 2022. Contracted professional services were higher than anticipated in order to complete projects while staffing levels were low.
- Apprentice lineworker program expenses were down. Other training and educational events also came in lower than budgeted both in revenue and expenses as programs were ramped up throughout the year in the new Office and Training Center.
- MEC issued \$43.7 million of Power Supply Revenue Bonds (MoPEP Facilities) Series 2022 for the financing of solar projects. These bonds are climate certified green bonds.
  - Solar farms located in Macon, Chillicothe, Lebanon, Higginsville and Farmington.
- The MPUA finance program issued \$2.5 million in funding for electric and water system upgrades.

Full audited financial reports for all MPUA organizations should be released in June 2023. See financial information at [MPUA.org/financials](https://mpua.org/financials) or contact MPUA.

# Strategic and Long-Range Plans

Many strategic and long-range plan goals were achieved in 2022.

Throughout the year, MPUA staff were able to maintain organizational capability by developing a succession plan, refining human resource policies that were approved by the board, creating an annual member engagement plan with 100% member utilities engaged, completing a quarterly financial dashboard and streamlining MPUA governance. 2022 also marked the completion of the MPUA Long-Range Plan.

MPUA was able to advocate for the value of hometown utilities through state and federal legislative priorities, a weekly state legislative report, and regulatory and transmission advocacy.

Lastly, MPUA provided high-value services through the development of increased training and education opportunities, a new Water & Wastewater Tech Summit, the beginning of line crew services, the creation of new peer exchange groups, sharing grant funding opportunities and applying for funding, providing seasonal energy marketing forecasts/reviews, and investing in software for IRPs.

2022 MPUA Strategic Plan Goal Scorecard	STATUS
<b>Maintain Organizational Capability</b>	
Develop an MPUA workforce development plan completed to ensure an excellent, diverse, inclusive, and engaged workforce	completed/ongoing
Collaborate with peers to expand and exchange expertise	completed/ongoing
Maintain MPUA financial and operational strength with cost competitiveness	completed/ongoing
Expand utility and associate member involvement and grow membership	completed/ongoing
<b>Advocate the Value of Hometown Utilities</b>	
Influence legislative, executive, regulatory and RTO/ISO decision-making	completed/ongoing
Implement a strategy that increases community understanding of hometown utilities value	completed/ongoing
<b>Provide High-Value Services</b>	
Identify member needs to prioritize and expand innovative training, services, operations, technology, and education opportunities for each utility sector	ongoing
Improve economies of scale for agency and member assets in operations and resource planning	underway/ongoing





improving local quality of life through hometown utilities