

Indianapolis Power & Light Company operates a complex underground network which serves more than 2,600 downtown Indianapolis customers. Our skilled underground technicians work every day to ensure a safe and reliable network.

Anatomy of Indianapolis' underground systems

- IPL manhole and duct lines (conduits)
- IPL power cables
- IPL street lighting cables
- IPL transformer vaults
- Steam, natural gas and chilled water pipe system
- Sanitary and storm sewer pipe system
- Water pipe system
- Cable television and telecommunication companies' manholes, pullboxes, duct lines and fiber optic cables



of secondary cable operating

By the numbers: IPL underground network infrastructure

72.2 mi. of primary cable operating at 13,200 volts



37.5 mi.



Revised 4/1/15

IPL FACT SHEET INDIANAPOLIS DOWNTOWN UNDERGROUND NETWORK

IPL downtown network protection

Indianapolis Power & Light Company takes steps year-round to provide safe and reliable service downtown including inspections of manholes every three years and vaults every two years. Here is a snapshot of our completed and ongoing efforts.

Network Protective Initiatives

Enhanced Coordination with Other Underground Facilities	-
Enhanced Inspections and Technology	
Inspection and Replacement of Network Protectors and Transformers	-
Improved Asset Management	
Downtown Scada Project	
GIS Mapping and Modeling	-
Oil Testing and Fire Retardant Fluid	
Replace All 480-Volt Network Protectors	
Network Event Response Drills	
Conduit Review of Gateway Vault Communications	
Enhanced Network Protector Inspection Process	
Enhanced Records Process	
Install Additional Locking Manhole Covers	
Accelerated Inspections of Manholes and Vaults (Utilizing Mutual Utility Assistance Resources)	

= Completed & Ongoing

= Ongoing and On Track for Timely Completion

Manhole Inspection focus areas:

- High ambient temperatures
- Structural integrity in manholes
- Damage caused by steam leaks
- Condition of splices and cable insulation

Vault Inspection focus areas:

- Natural gas piping system leaks
- Undermining of electric facilities caused by pressurized water system leaks or sanitary/storm sewer piping leaks
- Corrosive effects of street and sidewalk de-icing chemicals

External challenges

Other underground facilities

- District steam heat system excessive heat, thermal damage
- District cooling system water flow, structural damage and faults
- Drinking water system water flow, structural damage and faults
- Natural gas system natural gas leaks, combustible gas source
- Fiber optics and telecommunications installation and system maintenance

Other environmental factors

- Road salts and other ice melting chemicals corrosion
- Miscellaneous chemicals such as gasoline, antifreeze, oil, etc. — fire hazard
- Flooding from rains faults
- Ongoing downtown construction projects
- Customer-owned equipment failures impacting IPL system

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