

---

## News Release

**Contact:** Galen Eberhart, DCEDP – 260.927.1180  
Jill Korte, I&M – 260.425.2153

### **Indiana Michigan Power Awards Grant to DeKalb County Partnership** *Funds will be used to assist startup of economic development organization*

**AUBURN, Ind. (August 31, 2006)** — The DeKalb County Economic Development Partnership (DCEDP) has received a \$750 grant from Indiana Michigan Power to assist with the startup of the countywide economic development organization's operations. The DCEDP opened its office at 1324 South Grandstaff Drive in June following the hiring of Galen Eberhart as director.

“We are grateful to receive these funds from Indiana Michigan Power to help us furnish and equip the first-ever dedicated economic development office in DeKalb County,” said Eberhart. “Utilities providers like I&M are active and important partners in economic development and with their assistance, this organization is reaching out to assist businesses seeking to expand or locate in this community.”

Indiana Michigan Power serves a substantial portion of DeKalb County through both direct sales and municipal electric departments.

“Indiana Michigan Power is proud to promote economic growth in the communities we serve to help keep good jobs in our communities and bring new jobs here,” stated Jill Korte, economic development manager of Indiana Michigan Power. “We look forward to working with the DCEDP to continue business advancement throughout DeKalb County.”

Indiana Michigan Power (I&M), a unit of American Electric Power (AEP), is headquartered in Fort Wayne, and its 2,600 employees serve more than 575,000 customers in Fort Wayne, South Bend, Elkhart, Muncie, Marion, Decatur, Hartford City, Avilla, Winchester and Elwood, Indiana; and St. Joseph, Benton Harbor, Buchanan, Three Rivers, and New Buffalo, Michigan. It operates 3,595 MW of coal-fired generation in Indiana, 2,110 MW of nuclear generation in Michigan, and 22 MW of hydro generation in both states. More information about I&M is available at <http://www.IndianaMichiganPower.com>

For more information about the DeKalb County Economic Development Partnership, visit [www.dekalbcountyedp.org](http://www.dekalbcountyedp.org).

###