

# Power Up!

IRWA debuts new course on acquisition for electrical utility projects

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**Mark your calendars! On August 31, IRWA is releasing its newest learning product—the highly anticipated Course 218, Right of Way Acquisition for Electrical Utility Projects.**

Sponsored by Consumers Energy, this two-day classroom-based course is vitally relevant to the newly designed industry-centric career pathway in Electrical Utilities, as well as a key course for the Right of Way Professional (RWP) level of certification. It can also be used toward continuing education or re-certification credit. The pilot will be presented in Michigan and includes an additional day for industry representatives to provide feedback prior to the Association-wide launch of the course.

Designed to engage participants in a robust and interactive way, Course 218 integrates a high impact Team Challenge where participants have the opportunity to put their new skills to the test as they participate in and come up with creative solutions to a crisis-based, time-sensitive team simulation. This exercise unlocks the critical thinking skills and reinforces long-term retention and application of information through experiential learning and emotional recognition. The Team Challenge scores the students against a valid and reliable standards-based performance assessment rubric. And we're hoping that it is a lot of fun, too!

Another exciting course feature is the incorporation of reflective questions that tap into each person's ability to think about their own learning and apply it to relevant situations that typically arise in the workplace. This practice builds a highly-effective bridge between knowledge gained and application to real life issues.

A customized learning guide desk reference has also been developed for this course. It contains valuable information, including a separate bound glossary of terms related to right of way acquisition for electrical utility projects. And to whet the appetite for new learning, a pre-engagement activity has been designed

for participants to complete prior to attending the course.

As you can see, there are many new learning features that have been built into this course. We are pleased to provide the latest and most effective methods in learning to our students. By doing so, we can maximize learner retention, and as a result, augment efficacy back at the workplace.

The creation of this innovative two-day course would not have been possible without a dedicated team of subject matter experts. I had the distinct pleasure of collaborating with David Hingtgen, J.E. Parker, SR/WA, Brad Krabel, SR/WA, R/W-NAC and Lois Neighbors. Their tireless pursuit of excellence, commitment to collaborative practice, openness to innovation, and dedication to IRWA is truly commendable.

This is learning and content in right of way like you've never experienced—especially designed to maximize long-term retention and develop critical thinking skills. Now that's what I call a real return on investment! ⚡

*For more information about Course 218, Acquisition for Electrical Utility Projects, visit [www.irwauniversity.org](http://www.irwauniversity.org)*