

2021 Employee of the Year Nominee

Frank Messineo, Power Production Manager, BWP, delivers amazing results for the city of Burbank year over year but never more so than during this exceptionally difficult year. First, he led the Magnolia Power Plant outage/upgrade. Under his direction, BWP implemented groundbreaking, never before accomplished (in any utility) functionality, enabling us to run at a lower power output to support additional renewables for a larger portfolio percentage. This models the way in our industry and enables a path for us to exceed our goals.

During the outage, we ran into some unforeseeable issues. Frank showed his unselfish dedication by staying at the plant 12-16 hours daily to ensure that the team had the parts they needed, the staffing in place (despite some COVID cases during the multi-month event) while providing up to date communication to his customers – enabling them to plan and deliver power to the communities they serve.

When we experienced an unexpected turbine problem on our Lake 1 generator, Frank identified the need to ship the turbine out for assessment and refurbishment. During this process, more extensive repairs than expected were discovered. Parts were very difficult to find due to the pandemic and we had a serious delay in re-installing the turbine. This meant that we would not have adequate power resources during the heat of the summer. Frank jumped on the phone and began looking at buying a used turbine. He identified three of them – at \$6 million, \$8 million and \$12 million. He didn't stop there. Based on his amazing reputation in the industry, his knowledge and relationships with GE as well as his gumption, Frank enabled us to join a leased turbine GE program, saving BWP between \$5 million and \$11 million dollars. He then ensured that we had the turbine in place and working in June – well in advance of the need. This had to have been extremely stressful for Frank, but he simply put one foot in front of the other each day and no matter what obstacles were thrown in his path, he found a way through it.

But that is not all. With the landfill producing more gas than we can burn, resulting in flaring gas (clearly not GHG-reducing), he took it upon himself to look at expanding the recently commissioned biogas microturbine facility – turning waste into kilowatts. He also reestablished the correct asset value for Lake to lower insurance premiums – saving still more funds for the customers.

Frank's leadership is evident in the way that people strive to get into the jobs at Magnolia. He provides exceptional service to his staff and they, in turn, provide exceptional service to him. Frank works with integrity, with the best interest of BWP ratepayers at heart. He looks for innovative solutions and is committed to continuous improvement. As the operating agent for Magnolia, BWP, through Frank's leadership, manages the needs of participants in a civil manner- hearing out concerns and addressing them respectfully. He always demonstrates extraordinary care for his customers and this community.