

DELIVERING VALUE TO PUBLIC POWER

OUR 2024 YEAR IN REVIEW



DEAR PUBLIC POWER COLLEAGUES,

This report looks at some of the important ways in which the American Public Power Association provided value to your utility in 2024, by the numbers and in the words of your fellow members.

From protecting your interests on Capitol Hill to offering top-notch professional development and networking opportunities and helping secure and navigate the array of federal funding opportunities, our aim is to be your resource and partner for achieving success.

APPA helps you navigate changing regulations, make sense of the latest technologies, keep your operations running smoothly, honor your operational and mutual aid efforts, connect you with your peers, and keep you on top of the news that matters most to your day-to-day work.

Just as you are dedicated to supporting your communities, we are passionate about our mission — to help you and other community-owned utilities deliver superior services.

Our value to members can be conveyed in financial terms, such as constraining costs of onerous regulations, securing more than \$7 million in new funding for members, or how much you saved on events and resources we offer. It can also be conveyed in the time you've saved by leveraging our tailored tools and services, including the newly updated eSafety Tracker, or it could be conveyed in the connections you forge at our events and on our new community platform, APPA Engage.

We are honored to be working for you to preserve and strengthen the public power business model. Our team of dedicated professionals is focused on furthering our mission and delivering you the utmost value in your membership.

We look forward to continuing to help you magnify your expertise and keep public power strong in 2025.

Sincerely,



NICK LAWLER,
*Chair, Board of Directors
American Public Power Association
General Manager, Littleton Electric Light
and Water Departments, Massachusetts*



SCOTT CORWIN
*President and CEO
American Public Power Association*

Cover photo: Photo of Klein Vogel, courtesy Manitowoc Public Utilities, Wisconsin.

CONNECTING LEADERS



Panelists present at the 2024 Joint Action Conference in January in Florida.

FUNDING INNOVATION



The DEED program board toured Manitowoc Public Utilities' power plant in Wisconsin, which received a grant from the R&D program to help the utility convert its solid-fuel boilers to using biomass.

SUPPORTING EACH OTHER



The public power community came together again in 2024 to support Light Up Navajo - a multi-year mutual aid effort to bring electricity to families in the Navajo Nation.

DELIVERED PROGRESS FOR PUBLIC POWER



Members of the Policy Makers Council meet with Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-OH) at the summer fly-in. Photo courtesy American Municipal Power, Inc.



Public power policymakers meet with Sen. Mike Rounds (R-SD) at the PMC summer fly-in. Photo courtesy Missouri River Energy Services.

APPA is public power's voice in Washington. This means we listen carefully to the array of member concerns, keep up connections with key decision makers and allies, and fine tune our collective message to have the biggest impact. Our efforts in 2024 led to several key "wins" in the legislative and regulatory space:

- An improved final rule on energy-efficiency standards for distribution transformers from the Department of Energy, including extending the implementation period from three to five years.
- Adjusted requirements of the Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP) program to allow joint action agencies to apply on behalf of multiple members and allow all the investments of proposed sub-recipients to be considered in total funding eligibility.
- Extended the safe harbor exception to the domestic content requirement for elective payment tax credits.
- Extensively lobbied against efforts to expand Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) jurisdiction over public power utilities and the Power Marketing Administrations (PMAs).
- Removed harmful provisions and added language to protect federal hydropower customers in the biannual Water Resources Development Act.

"We promote and encourage all board members to attend the Legislative Rally and the National Conference. If the role of a board member is to make fiscally prudent decisions in any industry that's rife with market disruptions, it's imperative that members are participating in these events to learn more about how the industry is being molded and shaped by innovation and legislation and what tomorrow's utility will look like."

**LEE MEYERHOFER, COMMISSIONER,
KAUKAUNA UTILITIES, WISCONSIN**

**APPA
ENGAGE**
WHERE PUBLIC
POWER CONNECTS

POLICY MAKERS
COUNCIL



ENVIRONMENT



FEDERAL
FUNDING
OPPORTUNITIES



FERC



NERC



POWER
MARKETING
ADMINISTRATIONS





NOTABLE MEETINGS IN 2024

included time with Department of Energy Secretary Granholm, Senate Finance Ranking Member Mike Crapo (R-ID), House Energy & Commerce Committee Chair Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA), FERC Chairman Willie Phillips, and Commissioners Allison Clements, Mark Christie, and David Rosner. APPA continues to participate in various coalitions, including the Large Public Power Council's Environmental Task Force, Climate Legal Group, the Utility Solid Waste Activities Group, the Utility Water Act Group, the Water Advocacy Coalition, the Clean Air Forum, and the Environmental Justice Coalition.

Our regulatory work involved filings, comments, and letters to more than ten different agencies, including:

- To the Environmental Protection Agency regarding pending rules to regulate emissions from stationary combustion turbines and best practices associated with spent solar panels and lithium-ion batteries.
- Submitting a prepared written statement on a member's behalf for FERC's annual reliability technical conference, identifying five key risk areas for grid reliability.
- Supporting NERC's proposal to enhance compliance monitoring and speed up processing of low-risk compliance exceptions and to introduce a noncompliance transition period for significant new reliability standards.
- Clarity around the rules for elective pay from the Internal Revenue Service and Treasury Department.
- Protesting a petition asking FERC to compel Salt River Project to sell energy to, and purchase energy from, residential solar customers.
- Requesting rehearing of FERC Order No. 1920 on long-term regional transmission planning and cost allocation.
- Commenting on a NERC proposed reliability standard requiring internal network security monitoring on certain medium- and high-impact cyber systems.
- Bank capital requirements with the Federal Reserve, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and more.
- Implementing National Environmental Policy Act regulations at the Department of Energy.



649

attendees

at the 2024
Legislative Rally

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS



ENSURED PUBLIC POWER CAN TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF ELECTIVE PAYMENT AND TAX CREDITS

The ability for your utility to take advantage of the energy credits long afforded to for-profit enterprises was a long time in the making. We continually keep apprised of the implementation activity, related rulemakings, and ongoing discussion on the topic to ensure public power has options for financing infrastructure now and into the future.

To this end, we:

- Conducted numerous meetings with White House, Treasury, and Department of Energy officials and other key stakeholders to educate on the importance of elective pay and potential problems with implementation.
 - Secured \$130,000 grant from DOE to develop an Elective Pay Toolkit.
 - Developed a "Tax Guidance for Utilities" page on our website that summarizes key areas of interest and curates key resources, saving you time in understanding guidance from the IRS/Treasury.
- Held over 50 joint meetings with members of the House Energy & Commerce, House Ways & Means, Senate Energy & Natural Resources, and Senate Finance Committees to lay the groundwork to protect public power's access to elective payment in the upcoming tax discussions.

\$130,000
to support
Elective Pay
implementation



BOOSTED CONNECTIONS ACROSS PUBLIC POWER

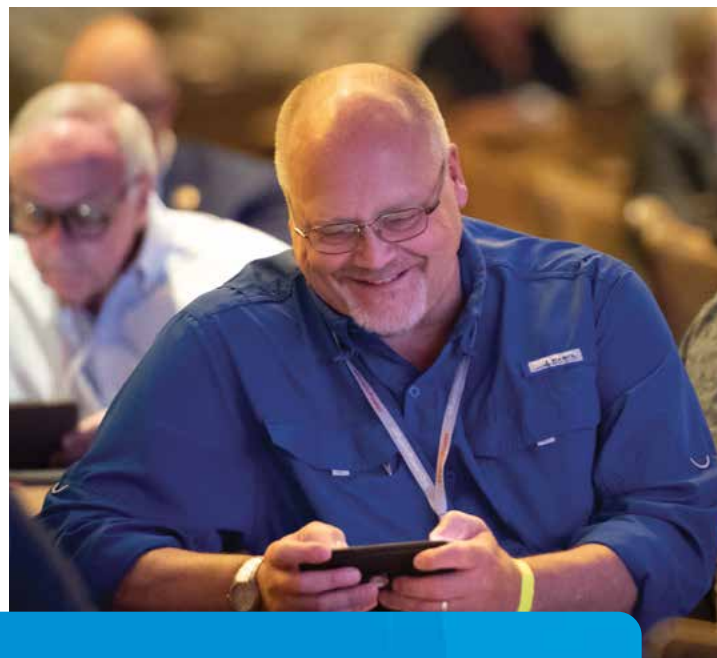
In 2024, we launched APPA Engage, an online community platform that allows you to pose questions and share ideas across a broad swath of groups based on role and interest area. APPA Engage has also transformed and updated the resource sharing and experience of working groups across the industry, all without having to create yet another username and password.

Building on the success of the previous listservs, APPA Engage brought:

- Seamless transition from outdated listserv to modern platform
- 700+ new public power professionals into the conversations, now a community more than 6,400 strong
- A new opportunity for members to continue conversations via direct chats
- 25+ active groups with more than 1,000 community posts

62,000+

posts, chats, events,
resource downloads,
and more



**APPA
ENGAGE**
WHERE PUBLIC
POWER CONNECTS

"[APPA Engage] is a collaborative knowledge sharing platform and enables issues and questions from a national perspective to be discussed among knowledgeable professionals in a confidential environment. I applaud APPA for bringing this platform online. There have been so many conversations across the country on various and related issues we have all been facing. It enables all of the many professionals to get a heartbeat or pulse of what the issues are across the country, not just limited to one geographical area."

SCOTT OWENS, GENERAL MANAGER, BENTON COUNTY ELECTRIC SYSTEM, TENNESSEE

DELIVERED UNPARALLELED TRAINING AND NETWORKING

Through the APPA Academy, you get insights and make connections like nowhere else. Approximately 9,300 people from 1,600 organizations took part in our in-person and virtual offerings in 2024. About 4,800 people connected at our signature in-person conferences and events, which included targeted educational sessions, dynamic keynotes, engaging expos, and ample networking time.

You got access to:

- New and enhanced events, including the Cybersecurity and Technology Summit
- Around 200 hours of virtual training opportunities, including 19 free events
- Bonus presentations, resources, and tools shared by presenters and trainers



\$3.8
million

Amount members
saved on event
registration in 2024

"The networking opportunities alone make attending this event a must. The roundtables are beneficial for bouncing ideas off of your counterparts from utilities in other regions and give you insight and motivation for new ideas."

ALLISON HUENEMANN
GENERAL MANAGER, CRAWFORDSVILLE
ELECTRIC LIGHT & POWER, INDIANA





2024 National Conference

“The most valuable aspect of this conference was the connections that I made with other attendees. There was such a wide range of experience in attendance, and everyone was so kind and willing to share their knowledge. It was really refreshing to have so many ideas and approaches available to discover.”

JENNIFER MCKINLEY
CUSTOMER SERVICE SUPERVISOR,
TRAVERSE CITY LIGHT & POWER, MICHIGAN

ernally
pose Employees to Web of
pportunities
plain Long-Term Benefits
ention Focus



2024 Engineering & Operations Conference

FULFILLED OUR DUTY TO EACH OTHER

There are now nearly 1,300 utilities in the Public Power Mutual Aid Network. This growth is indicative of the expanding reach and scope of major events, and a testament to the helping nature of utility crews throughout the country. The response to Hurricanes Helene and Milton, back-to-back major storms with significant impacts in the same region of the country, involved approximately 1,400 public power resources from 22 states mobilized in mutual aid.

This unique situation created some challenges for the industry's restoration efforts. Many utilities that typically support Florida during mutual aid activations were still restoring power in Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina when Milton made landfall. However, the Mutual Aid Committee identified this potential challenge early in the preparation for Milton and secured the necessary crews and equipment for Florida.

The network was also able to do advance coordination with our new storm tracker, which was developed in late 2023 but put to the test in 2024 in how it helped quickly identify public power utilities within the projected path of the hurricanes. Members of the network also had the updated **Mutual Aid Playbook** at



their disposal, including new guidance and checklists for various roles in the network.

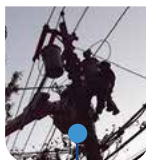
Thanks to the commitment from the responding crews, and the coordination across the Mutual Aid Network, Florida's public power utilities reached 95% restoration within three days. Public power crews further offered assistance to some of the larger IOUs affected.

We also held a regional mutual aid exercise in Oklahoma, which brought together over 90 participants from 30 utilities.

361
mutual aid
commendations
issued

APPA
ENGAGE
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MUTUAL AID



SAFETY



SECURITY



RISK
MANAGEMENT
& INSURANCE





1,400

**public power
resources**

mobilized for response
to Hurricanes Helene
and Milton

Lakeland Electric crews supporting a storm response. Photo courtesy Florida Municipal Electric Association.



Crews from Lafayette Utilities System in Louisiana prepare for Hurricane Francine

"One thing many of us take for granted is the mutual aid system we have to support other public power systems. APPA has been critical in setting it up, keeping it running, and it is indispensable to all of our customers. I'm really proud of what APPA and our public power brothers and sisters do to support one another."

**WES KELLEY, GENERAL MANAGER,
HUNTSVILLE UTILITIES, ALABAMA**

PROVIDED YOU WITH FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



\$7.3
million
in new funding
for public power

APPA secured \$7.3 million in new funding in 2024 to help you to:

- Improve cyber defenses and advance cybersecurity posture
- Mitigate risk from wildfires and extreme heat
- Deploy energy storage
- Navigate and take advantage of elective payment of energy credits

This includes more than **\$2.1 million** that will be expended over the next year.

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DEED MEMBERS



ENERGY
INNOVATION



FEDERAL
FUNDING
OPPORTUNITIES





The New York Power Authority analyzed how ice formation can affect the efficiency of hydropower plant turbines.

Through cooperative agreements and our R&D program, Demonstration of Energy and Efficiency Developments, or DEED, we supported many members in deploying technology, researching ideas, and more.

- Approved 10 members for \$2.35 million from Department of Energy agreement for cybersecurity technology, ICS CyberShield.
- Approved 22 members for \$11 million through a separate agreement with DOE for operational technology, OT Insight.
- Awarded \$1.42 million in grants and scholarships to 36 unique members through DEED.

Members completed 10 DEED-funded projects on managing distributed energy resources, mapping community energy resources, developing grid-interactive buildings, analyzing grid monitoring technology, understanding how ice affects hydro facilities, and more.



Pasadena Water and Power developed a method to deploy a controllable distribution battery storage system on existing infrastructure.

We also built on support to help utilities through the process of applying for and securing grants, including:

- Created a "Grant Services" form to connect utilities and vendors to partner on federal opportunities.
- Updated the DEED Policy Manual and other program processes to be more streamlined.

SUPPORTED EXCELLENCE IN OPERATIONS

145

utilities

earned
Safety Awards

Public power has many advantages, and our goal is to help you maintain, strengthen, and celebrate them. From developing technology that helps you benchmark and track your reliability metrics and safety in a practical way, to honoring your achievements, our programs support you.

In 2024, this included:

- 91 utilities designated as Reliable Public Power Providers
- 48 utilities designated as Smart Energy Providers
- 145 utilities earned Safety Awards
- 12 utilities and 18 individuals honored with Awards of Excellence
- 20 utilities honored with the Customer Service Satisfaction Award, presented with Great Blue Research

In 2024, we also:

- Launched a new Safety Committee, which has 24 members.
- Stood up a standards task force to bring together public power perspectives on the latest round of National Electrical Safety Code updates.

**SAFETY
TRACKER**
POWERED BY ESAMS
American Public Power Association

Building off the success of our eReliability Tracker, which has more than 540 utility subscribers, we launched a new version of the eSafety Tracker in 2024. Forty-one utilities are already subscribed to the eSafety Tracker.





Photo from Kirkwood Electric in Missouri, which has been recognized as a Reliable Public Power Provider since 2011.

"The RP3 designation and recognition amongst our colleagues in the APPA family are rewarding, but the greatest value and benefit come from the application process, which led to conversations and reviewing our processes and procedures. We improved our operations and are more prepared for the future due to RP3. Thank you, APPA, for a wonderful tool and opportunity!"

MARSHFIELD UTILITIES, WISCONSIN



Columbia Light & Power was one of five utilities awarded the 2024 Sue Kelly Community Service Award.



The Smart Energy Provider Review Panel

**APPA
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WHERE PUBLIC
POWER CONNECTS

ENERGY SERVICES



T&D



SAFETY



IT



HUMAN RESOURCES



DEVELOPED TOOLS AND SHARED YOUR SUCCESSES

PUBLIC POWER CURRENT
December 17, 2024

PUBLIC POWER NOW

LATEST EPISODE:
Roseville Electric's Tom Pontes, KUA's Aaron Haderle Detail Benefits of Participating in APPA Lineworkers Rodeo

SUBSCRIBE

51
Public Power Now
podcasts
broadcast

PUBLIC POWER MAGAZINE
NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2024 VOL. 52 / NO. 6
AMERICAN PUBLIC POWER ASSOCIATION

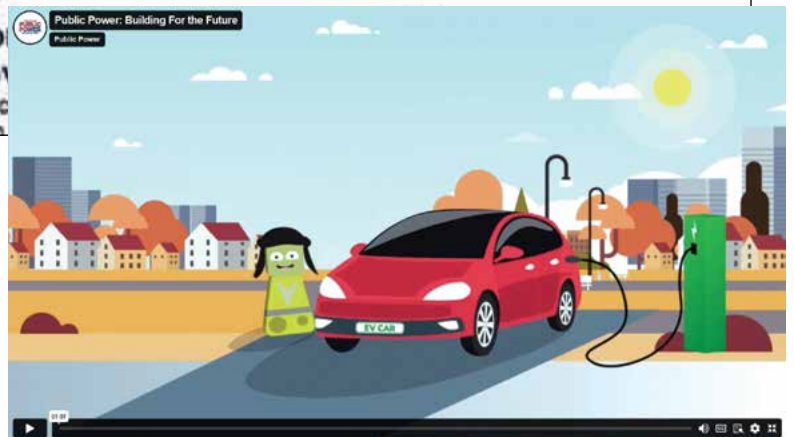
THE POWER OF SMALL

Utility Board (Texas) @KerrvillePUB: Our crew just spent the day yesterday giving back by participating in the Salvation Army Kerrville! #publicpower

RESPONSE AND MUTUAL AID
FEMA Sends Funds to Vermont Electric Department for Recovery
The Federal Emergency Management Agency

Public Power: Building For the Future

- 1,450+ articles published in *Public Power Current* and *Public Power* magazine, featuring 330+ members
- Produced 20+ videos, including a shareable video for Public Power Week





Reports published:

- *Physical Security Essentials: A Public Power Primer (update)*
- *Rate Design Case Studies – WPPI, LES, Groton*
- *Public Power Energy Storage Business Case Guide*
- *Proactive Grid Build for Transportation Electrification*
- *Risk Management Toolkit for Public Power*

Created technology briefs:

- *Peak Load Management Strategies for Public Power*
- *Energy Storage for Public Power Resilience*
- *Preparing Public Power Utilities for the Electric Vehicle Boom*

Resources developed:

- Risk Management webpage.
- A wildfire working group, which developed policy principles for APPA's advocacy on wildfire issues and helped identify materials for a new wildfire mitigation planning webpage.
- Reliability Data webpage highlighting public power's reliability advantage.

APPA ENGAGE
WHERE PUBLIC POWER CONNECTS

CUSTOMER SERVICES



PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

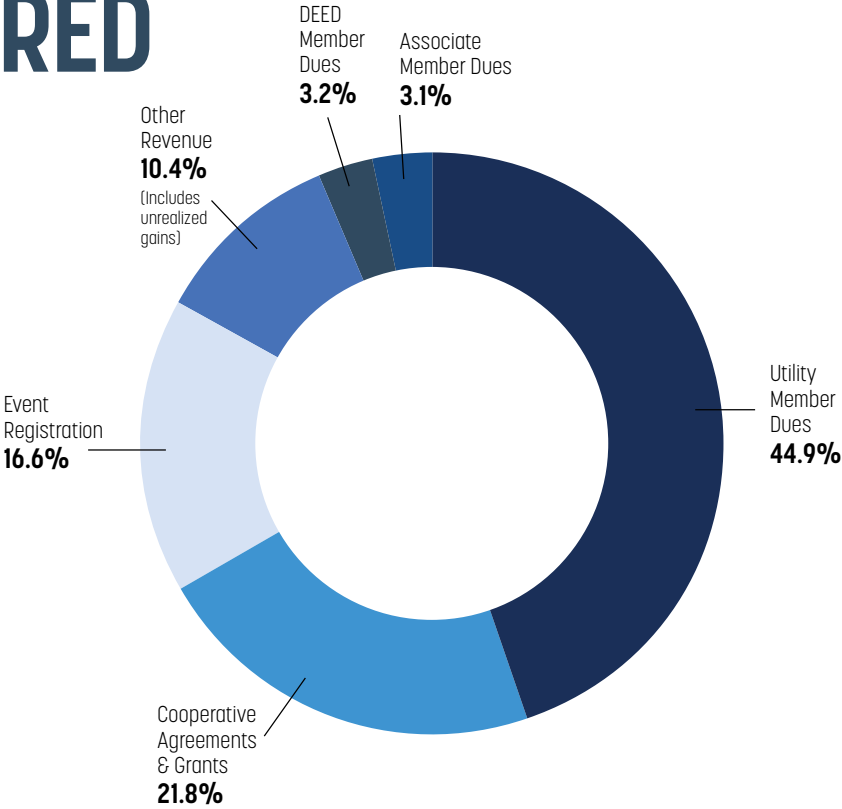


RATE DESIGN

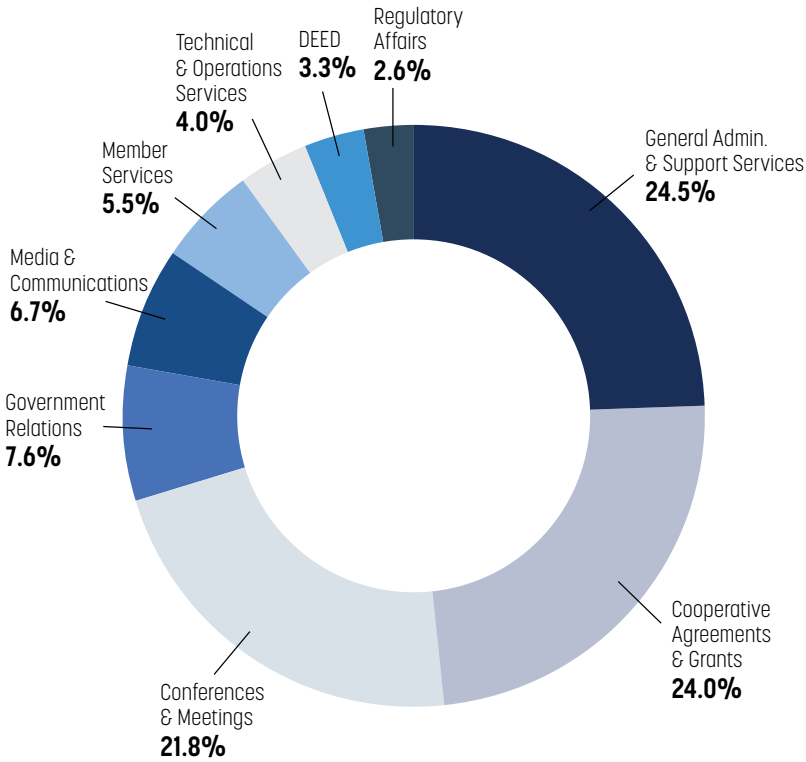


REVENUE GAINED TO VALUE SHARED

2024 ASSOCIATION REVENUE
\$36,351,232



2024 ASSOCIATION EXPENSES
\$32,568,376



Note: unaudited financials

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



APPA's 2024-2025 Board of Directors

LEADERSHIP TRAINING



Dave Taylor, CEO of LDR Leadership, leads a training at the APPA Fall Institute in Seattle.

2024 DAY OF GIVING



APPA staff and members gathered to clean up a beach prior to the 2024 National Conference in San Diego, CA.



Powering Strong Communities

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