

APPA ACADEMY
**Engineering
& Operations
Conference**

2025

PUBLIC POWER
**NEXT
TECH
EXPO**

**WI-FI NETWORK: Engineering
PASSWORD: APPA2025**

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PERMACAST
Protecting America's Critical Infrastructure Since 2006

SUNDAY, MARCH 30

8 am – 6:30 pm

REGISTRATION

FOYER, LEVEL 1

1:30 – 5 pm

PRECONFERENCE SEMINAR

**Maintaining Electric Utility
Distribution Systems**

BALLROOM A4-5, LEVEL 2

5 – 6:30 pm

WELCOME RECEPTION

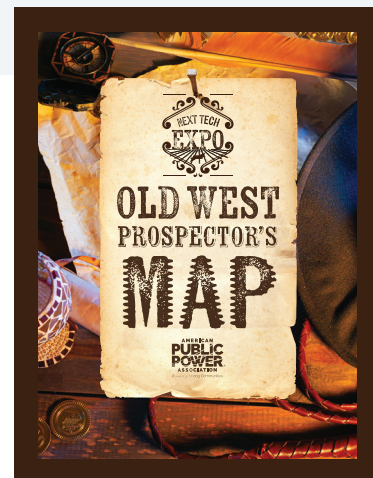
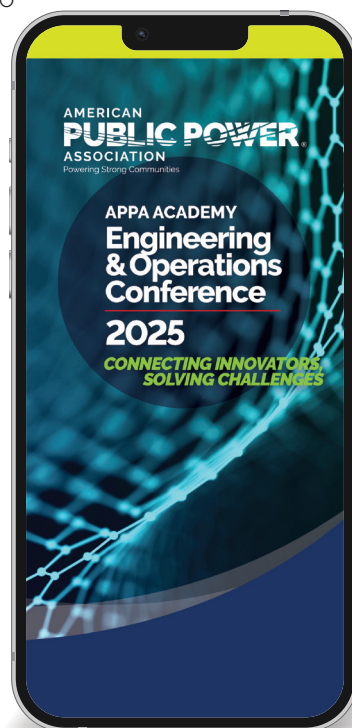
MEETING ROOMS 1-3, LEVEL 2

Kick off the conference with this opportunity to unwind and network. Enjoy live music by the local band Amandor Sons, and food and drinks with friends and colleagues.

DOWNLOAD THE MOBILE APP

Download the mobile app to maximize your experience:

- Get program and speaker information
- Create a customized schedule
- Connect with attendees
- Access presentations
- Learn about sponsors



USE THE PROSPECTOR'S MAP

to explore the Public Power
NextTech Expo and be entered
into a drawing for a chance to win
exciting prizes!

GENERAL SESSIONS

ALL GENERAL SESSIONS ARE IN BALLROOM A1, LEVEL 2

MONDAY, MARCH 31



8:45 – 10 am

PRESIDING: MASON BAKER, CEO and General Manager, Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems, and Chair of the APPA Engineering & Operations and Safety Summit Section



Welcome to Sacramento

FRANKIE MCDERMOTT, Chief Operating Officer and General Manager, Sacramento Municipal Utility District, California

How to Build World-Class Teams



Learn how you can inspire groups to accomplish extraordinary things together and what leadership lessons can be gained from successful teams from across the globe. Gain insight into innovative teambuilding strategies and tools to adapt, overcome, and win as one, even when the only thing constant is change. Get ideas about how to raise your team to the next level, both personally and professionally, and cultivate deep and lasting connections in any team.

ROBYN BENINCASA, American Endurance Racer, San Diego Firefighter, Author, and Motivational Speaker

TUESDAY, APRIL 1

8:45 – 10 am

Honoring Our Colleagues: RP3 Designations

Mutual Aid: What, Why, and How?

Join a panel of public power leaders as they delve into the critical role of mutual aid. Discover what mutual aid entails, why it is essential for APPA members to participate, and how you can get involved. Gain invaluable insights into the dynamics of extreme events, learn how utilities can prepare both as providers and recipients, and deepen your understanding of the profound impact these events have on our communities.

SCOTT CORWIN, President & CEO, American Public Power Association; **JEFFREY STEWART**, Director, Lafayette Utilities System, Louisiana; and **AMY ZUBALY**, Executive Director, Florida Municipal Electric Association



SCOTT CORWIN



JEFFREY STEWART



AMY ZUBALY

Honoring Our Colleagues: Safety Awards of Excellence

MONDAY, MARCH 31

**Environmental,
Generation & Fuels**
Ballroom A4–6
Level 2

Grid Modernization
Ballroom A1
Level 2


**Transmission
& Distribution**
Ballroom A7–10
Level 2

Safety Summit
Meeting Rooms 1–3
Level 2

Industry Spotlight
Ballroom A2–3
Level 2

7:30 – 8:30 am

Newcomer and Networking Breakfast with Sponsors: [Public Power NextTech Expo, Level 1](#)

Award Photos (RP3 Designees and Safety Award Winners): [Foyer, Level 2](#) 

8:45 – 10 am

Opening General Session: [Ballroom A1, Level 2](#)

10 – 10:30 am

Break with Sponsors: [Public Power NextTech Expo, Level 1](#)

10:30 – 11:45 am

Keeping Up with
Environmental
Regulations

Engaging Your
Communities on
Electric Vehicles

Planning for
Load Growth and
Distributed Energy
Resources

How to Build Teams
Cultivating a Safety-
First Mindset

Harnessing the
Power of Data to
Modernize the Grid

11:45 am – 1:15 pm

Lunch (on your own)

1:15 – 2:30 pm

JOINT SESSION
Fuels of the Future Roundtable
([Ballroom A1, Level 2](#))

Grid Hardening for
Resilience

eSafety Tracker
Roundtable

2:30 – 3 pm

Break with Sponsors: [Public Power NextTech Expo, Level 1](#)

3 – 4:15 pm

The Continued Case
for Natural Gas
Generation

Preparing for
Data Centers and
Other High Loads

Engineering Design
Standards and Best
Practices for T&D

Developing
& Implementing
Corrective Action
Strategies

Electrifying the
Navajo Nation

4:30 – 6 pm

Party Like it's 1849 Reception

Don some western wear and enjoy food and drinks in a relaxed setting while celebrating the California Gold Rush and Sacramento's significant role in shaping American history.

[Public Power NextTech Expo, Level 1](#)

TUESDAY, APRIL 1

**Environmental,
Generation & Fuels**
Ballroom A4-6
Level 2

Grid Modernization
Ballroom A1
Level 2

**Transmission
& Distribution**
Ballroom A7-10
Level 2


Safety Summit
Meeting Rooms 1-3
Level 2

7:30 – 8:30 am

Women in Public Power Networking Breakfast: Meeting Room 4, Level 2

Join us for an engaging conversation led by Joy Mustache, SMUD's Senior Attorney, and featuring a panel of female utility executives.

Networking Breakfast with Sponsors: Public Power NextTech Expo, Level 1

Award Photos (RP3 Designees and Safety Award Winners): Foyer, Level 2 

8:45 – 10 am

General Session: Ballroom A1, Level 2

10 – 10:30 am

Break with Sponsors: Public Power NextTech Expo, Level 1

10:30 – 11:45 am

Creating IRPs for
Sustainable Growth

Tools and
Technology
Supporting Grid
Modernization

Overcoming
Challenges in
Building
Transmission

Safety Strategies
to Protect Workers
from Extreme Heat

11:45 a.m. – 1:15 pm

Lunch in the Public Power NextTech Expo: Level 1

Network with peers and sponsors during this complimentary lunch in the Expo hall.

1:15 – 2:30 pm

Why Public Power
is Investing in
Advanced Nuclear

Finding and
Realizing Value in
Energy Storage

Utility Pole
Inspection and
Joint Use

Field Safety
Strategies

2:30 – 3 pm

Break with Sponsors: Public Power NextTech Expo, Level 1

3 – 4:15 pm

Where Carbon
Capture Utilization
and Storage
Projects Stand

Energy Planning
for the Long Term

Using Drones for
Proactive T&D
Asset Management
and Monitoring
Diagnostics

Establishing
Meaningful Safety
Training

4:30 – 6 pm

Happy Hour (pay your own way)

Get together with friends and associates before heading to dinner and exploring Sacramento's lively restaurant and brewery scene.
Sheraton Grand Hotel, Public Market Bar (1230 J St)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

7:30 – 8:30 am

Networking Breakfast: **Ballroom A1, Level 2**

8:45 – 10 am

Closing General Session: **Ballroom A1, Level 2**

CLOSING GENERAL SESSION

Self-Administered CPR



Climb into the cockpit and discover three core elements of self-administered CPR through strategic storytelling and engaging and entertaining magic. Walk away knowing how to remain **critical** in your profession, the rewards of staying **persistent**, and how to **rally** peers for cohesive growth. Reed focuses on helping professionals communicate effectively to boost performance, increase decision making skills, and create optimal success.

REED "ROLLER" BARRETT, Air Force Fighter Pilot, Magician, and Award-winning Speaker



The American Public Power Association helps community-owned utilities deliver superior electric service – by advocating and advising on electricity policy, resilience, cybersecurity, grid operations, technology, trends, and training. Learn more at www.PublicPower.org.



AMERICAN PUBLIC
POWER ASSOCIATION

The APPA Academy is public power's complete resource for professional education and certification, helping you stay abreast of rapidly evolving technologies, regulations, and customer needs. Learn more about in-person, virtual, and on-demand events at www.PublicPower.org/Academy.

KEY FACTS

Credits and Evaluation

A link to an online survey about the conference will be emailed to attendees after the conference. You must complete this form to receive a certificate for continuing education credits (CEUs and PDHs). We appreciate your valuable feedback.

Presentations

A link to speakers' presentations will be emailed to attendees after the conference and will be made available to view for one month.

Antitrust Statement

Various state and federal laws prohibit the exchange of information among competitors regarding the matters pertaining to price, refusals to deal, markets division, tying relationships and other topics that might infringe upon antitrust laws and regulations. No such exchange or discussion will be tolerated during the meeting. A copy of the APPA's Statement of Compliance with the Antitrust Laws is available upon request.

Code of Conduct

Attendees of American Public Power Association meetings agree to abide by the APPA Code of Conduct. If attendees engage in unacceptable behavior as outlined in the Code of Conduct, APPA may take any action it deems appropriate, including but not limited to, expulsion from the current and future meetings, with no warning or refund.

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