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Rochester Public Utilities Former Director of Power Resources and Customer Relations receives individual achievement award

New Orleans, La., June 19, 2018 —Walter “Wally” Schlink, former director of power resources and customer relations at Rochester Public Utilities (RPU) in Minnesota, received the James D. Donovan Individual Achievement Award at the American Public Power Association’s national conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. This Award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the electric utility industry and to public power.

Wally began his public power career working on the front lines as a journeyman maintenance technician. He became director of power resources and customer relations at Rochester Public Utilities in Minnesota. Wally’s roots allowed him to relate to employees at all levels while instilling a sense of pride and commitment to customer service. He retired from RPU in March, leaving a legacy of mentorship and collaboration. He was active with the Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency and served on many working groups. He has served on the American Public Power Association’s board of directors. He chaired the Association’s DEED board and its Engineering and Operations section.

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The American Public Power Association is the voice of not-for-profit, community-owned utilities that power 2,000 towns and cities nationwide. We represent public power before the federal government to protect the interests of the more than 49 million people that public power utilities serve, and the 93,000 people they employ. Our association advocates and advises on electricity policy, technology, trends, training, and operations. Our members strengthen their communities by providing superior service, engaging citizens, and instilling pride in community-owned power.