*Contact Tobias Sellier, Senior Director of Media Relations and Communications at* [*TSellier@PublicPower.org*](mailto:TSellier@PublicPower.org) *or 202-467-2927*

**Huntsville Utilities receives national energy innovator award**

**New Orleans, Louisiana, June 10, 2025** — Huntsville Utilities, of Huntsville, Alabama, received an American Public Power Association Energy Innovator Award during the American Public Power Association’s National Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. The award honors utilities that have developed or applied creative, energy-efficient techniques and technologies to their work, in order to provide better service to electric customers or projects that increase the efficiency of utility operations or resource efficiency.

Huntsville Utilities faced with rising electricity demand during extreme weather, is deploying its first large-scale battery energy storage system to effectively manage grid load during periods of extreme weather. Supported by a DEED grant, Huntsville deployed a 1.9 megawatt / 3.8 megawatt-hours megapack at its Stringfield substation. The system will store electricity during off-peak times and discharge during peak demand periods and will relieve stress on transformers and grid equipment by reducing overloads. The initiative leverages analytical machine learning and optimization algorithms to identify peak demand and develop the most cost-effective operational cycles. This approach reduces strain on the transformer, curbs outages, cuts emissions, improves reliability and resiliency, and effectively manages extreme peak demand in a sustainable and financially viable way.

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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 96,000 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.*