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**CDE Lightband receives national award for community service**

**Seattle, Washington, June 20, 2023** — CDE Lightband, of Tennessee, received an American Public Power Association Sue Kelly Community Service Award during the American Public Power Association’s National Conference in Seattle, Washington. The award recognizes “good neighbor” activities that demonstrate the commitment of the utility and its employees to the community.

CDE Lightband is deeply involved in the community of Clarksville, Tennessee, including by hosting annual blood drives, donating to a local small-business funding organization, and serving as a Partner in Education with the county school system. The latter involves donating money and time to STEM-focused teachers, students, and schools, in addition to providing career day and safety demonstrations. In 2020, the utility launched the Home Uplift Program in tandem with the Tennessee Valley Authority, for which CDE Lightband has contributed $220,000 and helped 17 customers upgrade their homes and lower energy bills. The utility participates in an annual toy drive to distribute gifts to organizations including Toys for Tots and Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Clarksville, and it partnered with another organization to host a “Stuff the Bucket” drive for Project Patriot Hope, which assists homeless veterans transitioning into housing.

CDE Lightband has additionally been recognized for nine consecutive years by Tree Line USA for meeting five industry standards, which include sponsoring a tree planting and public education program and participating in an Arbor Day celebration.

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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.*