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

**Navajo Tribal Utility Authority General Manager receives public power service award**

**Seattle, Washington, June 20, 2023** — Srinivasa Venigalla, Deputy General Manager of the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority, received the Harold Kramer-John Preston Personal Service Award during the American Public Power Association’s National Conference in Seattle, Washington. The award recognizes individuals for their service to the American Public Power Association (APPA).

Srinivasa was instrumental in establishing the Light Up Navajo initiative in tandem with APPA. In its first year, the unique mutual aid initiative involved more than 25 public power providers from across the country sending crews to assist, which led to connecting 233 homes on the Navajo Nation to the electric grid for the first time. Srinivasa served as host, family liaison, and managing electric engineer. Through his tireless efforts, Light Up Navajo has continued in 2022 and 2023, and its exemplary mission — as well as its continued success — has garnered national attention for NTUA, APPA, and the whole of public power.

###

*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.*