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Nashville Electric Service president and CEO receives American Public Power Association's exceptional leadership award

Nashville, Tennessee, June 14, 2022 — Decosta Jenkins, president and CEO of Nashville Electric Service in Nashville, Tennessee, received the Alex Radin Distinguished Service Award during the American Public Power Association's National Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. The award is the highest award granted by APPA. It recognizes exceptional leadership and dedication to public power.

Decosta Jenkins has been at the Tennessee public power utility since 1991 before becoming CEO in 2004. Under Decosta's leadership, NES earned a Tree Line USA utility designation for 12 consecutive years, maintained a double-A plus bond rating, and received multiple national recognitions, including APPA's Reliable Public Power Provider Diamond designation five consecutive times and APPA's Safety Award of Excellence in 2012 and 2013. Decosta has spoken at several APPA conferences and was elected to APPA's Board of Directors in 2012, serving on the executive committee as well as Board Chair from 2019 to 2020. He also served on APPA's CEO Climate Change and Generation Policy Task Force.

Decosta serves on local, regional, and national committees addressing civic, energy, and climate issues. He is a past board member and vice chair for the Tennessee Valley Public Power Association, serves on the board of Seven States Power Corporation, and is part of the Tennessee Valley Authority's Customer Planning Council. Decosta retired this year after serving as a strong advocate for public power throughout his tenure.

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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.