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Brodhead Water & Light superintendent receives national award

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 9, 2020 — Jeff Peterson, superintendent of Brodhead Water & Light in Brodhead, Wisconsin, received the Larry Hobart Seven Hats Award during the American Public Power Association's Public Power Connect: Virtual Summit & Business Meeting. The award recognizes managers of small utilities serving fewer than 2,500 meters. These managers have a very small staff and must assume multiple roles. The seven hats they must wear are: planning and design, administration, public relations, field supervision, accounting, human resources, and community leadership.

Throughout his 38-year career in public power, Jeff has made it a priority to focus on public power customers and his hometown community. Under his leadership, the utility has adopted new technologies, increased operational efficiencies, and provided key support for a variety of worthwhile local projects and initiatives. Jeff has always made it a priority to deliver as much value as possible for customers. His insights and feedback have helped joint action agency WPPI Energy optimize automated metering infrastructure (AMI) support for Brodhead and all members. WPPI members now have access to a valuable AMI tool that is unofficially named in Jeff's honor. Staff built a simple prototype, Brodhead and others helped test it, and the "Jeff Peterson Transformer Loading Tool" was born. Jeff plans to retire this spring after a long and successful career in public power.

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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.