



Contact Tobias Sellier, Director of Media Relations and Communications at TSellier@PublicPower.org or 202-467-2927

Kissimmee Utility Authority Board of Directors Chair receives American Public Power Association's public official award

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 9, 2020 — Kathleen Thacker, board of directors chair for Kissimmee Utility Authority (KUA) in Kissimmee, Florida, received the Spence Vanderlinden Public Official Award during the American Public Power Association's Public Power Connect: Virtual Summit & Business Meeting. The award recognizes elected or appointed local officials who have contributed to the goals of the American Public Power Association.

Kathleen has served on the Kissimmee Utility Board of Directors since 2010, holding the positions of chair, vice chair, secretary, assistant secretary, and director. Kathleen goes to great lengths to educate herself on the industry in order to be an effective leader and advocate for public power. During her tenure on the board, Kathleen and her fellow board members have focused on providing affordable, reliable and clean power to KUA's 79,000 customers in Kissimmee and the surrounding areas. Thacker also regularly attends community events sponsored by KUA and the city to volunteer and represent the city. These include monthly Chamber of Commerce events, volunteer projects like Public Power Day of Giving, holiday celebrations, and more. Most recently, KUA joined 15 other municipal utilities to form the Florida Municipal Solar Project. Kissimmee will be the first Florida city to power its local government facilities using 100 percent solar energy. Her current term on the Board expires in September of this year.

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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.

www.PublicPower.org
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2451 Crystal Drive
Suite 1000
Arlington, VA 22202-4804

202-467-2900