



NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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AUSTIN UTILITIES EARNS RELIABILITY AWARD

AUSTIN, Minn. April 4, 2019 – Austin Utilities (AU) has earned a Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3)® designation from the American Public Power Association for providing reliable and safe electric service. The utility received the Diamond level award for a score of 98-100% based on meeting program criteria. This is the first time the utility has applied for the award. It was presented on April 1 during the Association's annual Engineering & Operations Technical Conference held in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

The RP3 designation, which lasts for three years, recognizes public power utilities that demonstrate proficiency in four key disciplines: reliability, safety, workforce development, and system improvement. Criteria include sound business practices and a utility-wide commitment to safe and reliable delivery of electricity. Austin Utilities joins more than 275 public power utilities nationwide that hold the RP3 designation.

“Receiving an RP3 designation is a great honor. It demonstrates that a utility strives for a high level of service and is constantly looking to improve,” said Mark Nibaur, general manager of Austin Utilities. “We take a lot of pride in the work we do to power our community. It's nice to be recognized as among the ‘best of the best’ on a national level.”

The American Public Power Association has offered the RP3 designation for 14 years now. The Association is the voice of not-for-profit, community-owned utilities that power 49 million people in 2,000 towns and cities nationwide. The Association advocates and advises on electricity policy, technology, trends, training, and operations.

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Austin Utilities is a municipal utility serving approximately 12,300 electric customers, 10,300 natural gas customers, and 9,000 water customers. Their mission is to offer utility products and services in a safe, reliable and responsible manner in order to enhance the quality of life in our community. Austin Utilities' Board of Commissioners are elected by the consumer-owners of Austin to represent their best interest. For more information on Austin Utilities visit their website at www.austinutilities.com.