



**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
Contact: Melissa Swenson, Austin Utilities
507-434-4447
melissas@AustinUtilities.com

AUSTIN UTILITIES RECOGNIZED AS A SMART ENERGY PROVIDER

[Austin, MN, Monday January 13, 2025]— Austin Utilities has earned a Smart Energy Provider (SEP) designation from the American Public Power Association for demonstrating a commitment to and proficiency in energy efficiency, distributed generation, and environmental initiatives that support the goal of providing safe, reliable, low-cost, and sustainable electric service. Designations were presented on October 28 in Louisville, KY during APPA’s annual Customer Connections Conference.

The SEP designation, which lasts for three years (December 1, 2024 to November 30, 2027), recognizes public power utilities for demonstrating leading practices in four key disciplines: smart energy program structure; energy efficiency and distributed energy programs; environmental and sustainability initiatives; and customer experience. Austin Utilities joins more than 110 public power utilities nationwide that hold the SEP designation.

“We are honored to be recognized with the SEP designation for the second time,” said Melissa Swenson, Communications and Energy Services Manager of Austin Utilities. “This SEP designation reflects our commitment to offering customer programs and initiatives that support energy efficiency and reduce our environmental impact.

Austin Utilities was one of 45 public power utilities who received the designation at the ceremony. Across the nation, approximately 2,000 public power utilities provide electricity to 49 million people. Austin Utilities, your hometown utility, is committed to: Giving you choices in how you use (or don’t use) energy; Living in a healthy environment and considering sustainability in our energy choices; and providing you with unmatched customer service.

###

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 Austin, MN. For more information on Austin Utilities visit their website at www.austinutilities.com.

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