

Use this news release to publicize your award locally. Please fill in the blanks and put on your own letterhead. Distribute the release to your local newspaper reporters and radio and TV news reporters. Include an article in your customer and employee newsletters and post the information on your Web site. More information on the RP₃ program is available at www.APPAnet.org. DO NOT DISTRIBUTE UNTIL March 23, 2009.

EMBARGOED UNTIL March 23, 2009

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**(UTILITY NAME) RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION
FOR RELIABLE ELECTRIC OPERATIONS**

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 23, 2009—(Utility name) is one of 60 of the nation’s more than 2,000 public power utilities to earn Reliable Public Power Provider (RP₃[®])¹ recognition from the American Public Power Association for providing consumers with the highest degree of reliable and safe electric service. Paul Allen, vice president, engineering at Nashville, Tenn., Electric Service and chair of APPA’s RP₃ Review Panel, presented the designees on March 23, during the association’s annual Engineering & Operations Technical Conference, held in Austin, Texas.

“RP₃ designees are shining examples of excellence in utility operations,” said Allen, “These utilities are currently providing their communities with a high level of reliable and safe service while focusing on future improvements.”

The RP₃ recognizes public power utilities that demonstrate proficiency in four key disciplines: reliability, safety, workforce development and system improvement. Criteria within each category are based on sound business practices and represent a utility-wide commitment to safe and reliable delivery of electricity.

“We’re thrilled to join the ranks of RP₃ designees around the country,” said (name of manager), (official title) of (utility name). “This recognition is a testament to the quality work our employees do everyday.”

This is the fourth year that the RP₃ award has been offered. APPA is the national organization representing more than 2,000 not-for-profit, community- and state- owned electric utilities. It is located in Washington, D.C.

¹ RP₃[®] is a registered service mark of APPA.