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Texas Public Power Association Caps Record-Breaking Annual Conference

Members Convene to Discuss Legislative Priorities, Grid Resilience, and the Road Ahead for Public Power

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The Texas Public Power Association (TPPA) wrapped its Annual Conference this year with record-breaking attendance, drawing so much interest that the Association had to turn away exhibitors for lack of space. The conference brought together leaders from municipally- and cooperatively-owned electric utilities across the state for sessions on regulatory policy, legislative outlook, and the operational challenges facing public power today.

The turnout caps a strong year for the Association. In a recent member satisfaction survey, 93 percent of respondents reported being satisfied with TPPA's ability to meet their needs, and 80 percent rated their membership as excellent or good value.

“"The conference succeeded where it truly mattered — connecting like-minded professionals across the state to build relationships and solve problems together. That's what we try to accomplish here at TPPA more than anything else" said Taylor Kilroy, Executive Director of TPPA.

Conference sessions this year addressed the issues top of mind for Texas public power utilities. PUC Chairman Thomas Gleeson provided an update and forecast on activity at the Public Utility Commission of Texas, while Representative Ken King offered members a preview of the upcoming 90th Legislative Session. Another session, “What Texans Really Think of Data Centers (And Why It Matters for Public Power),” examined public sentiment on large load growth and its implications for utility planning.

TPPA also used the conference to spotlight new investments in its membership. The Association recently partnered with ME360 to launch the TPPA Leadership Program, a nine-month hybrid program designed to develop current and future people managers at member utilities; applications are open through August 31. TPPA additionally welcomed Alyssa Hobbs as its new Meetings & Membership Director, who will lead efforts to strengthen the Association's conferences, committee initiatives, and membership engagement going forward.

TPPA welcomed its newly-elected Board Officers for the 2026-2027 term: Rudy D. Garza (LCRA) as President, Marilyn Gilbert (Brownsville Public Utilities Board) as President-Elect, Tyler Hjorth (GEUS) as Vice President, Ryan Kelso (New Braunfels Utilities) as Secretary/Treasurer, and Darrell Cline (Garland Power & Light) as Past President.

Members looking to stay engaged with TPPA beyond the conference have several options, including four member-driven committees — Customer Service & Communications, Environmental, Engineering & Operations, and Governmental Relations & Legal — as well as the Association's Customer Service & Communications Conference, returning to Austin this March.

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About the Texas Public Power Association: *TPPA was founded in 1978 to represent the 72 municipally-owned electric utilities (MOUs) in Texas. In addition to MOUs, the Association's membership also includes several of the state's electric cooperatives and joint action agencies. TPPA member entities deliver electricity to more than 5 million Texans, accounting for approximately 15 percent of daily electric demand on the Texas grid. A number of TPPA members also own, manage or invest in electric transmission and/or generation assets (coal, hydro-power, natural gas, nuclear and renewables), responsible for approximately 15 percent of the state's daily electric generation supply. The Association, which maintains offices in Austin, is led by its board of directors and has a three-person professional staff. For more information visit www.tppa.com*