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News Release

Stoughton Utilities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local Leaders Meet with Federal Officials to Advocate Sound Energy Policy

Protecting consumers from over-regulation and promoting a better energy future for electric utility customers in Stoughton were the topics of discussion when local leaders met with members of Congress recently. Mayor Donna Olson and Stoughton Utilities Director Robert Kardasz joined more than 550 municipal officials from across the country at the American Public Power Association's Legislative Rally, March 12-14, in Washington, D.C. Participants at the rally encouraged support for policies that protect municipal electric utility customers and allow community-owned utilities — like Stoughton Utilities — to continue providing reliable, affordable power while minimizing environmental impacts.

“As the utility industry faces increased challenges in the areas of costs, regulation, energy security, environmental protection and more, it is more important than ever for representatives of our locally owned, not-for-profit utility to advocate actively on behalf of our local residents and businesses,” Kardasz said. “The rally provided the opportunity to allow our community's voice to be heard on Capitol Hill.”

Rally participants met with Senators Herb Kohl and Ron Johnson and visited the office of Rep. Tammy Baldwin to discuss issues that directly affect public power and the local community, including:

- Managing the cost and reliability impacts associated with environmental regulations;
- Preserving the ability of public power utilities to finance municipal electric infrastructure with tax-exempt bonds, which helps keep costs down for customers; and
- Ensuring the cyber-security of the nation's electric grid.

“It is important that our federal officials understand the local impacts of these issues for our community,” said Mayor Olson. “By advocating together with leaders of other, like-minded municipal electric utilities, we can more effectively shape the policies that will help us maintain prosperous and healthy communities.”

Mayor Olson and Kardasz also participated in presenting to Senator Kohl, who is retiring this year, an award in recognition of his longstanding support and dedication to preserving the benefits of public power for Wisconsin's municipal electric utility customers.

For more information, contact Stoughton Utilities at (608) 873-3379 or at www.stoughtonutilities.com.

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