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## **News Release** Stoughton Utilities

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## STOUGHTON UTILITIES HONORED WITH NATIONAL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SAFETY PRACTICES

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 22, 2011 – Stoughton Utilities has earned the American Public Power Association's Electric Utility Safety Award for safe operating practices in 2010. The utility earned a first place award in the category for utilities with 15,000 to 29,000 worker-hours of annual worker exposure. David Dwinell, chair of the APPA Safety Committee and safety specialist at Denton, Texas, Municipal Electric presented the award on March 21, during the association's annual Engineering & Operations Technical Conference, held in Nashville, Tennessee.

"When it comes to running an electric utility, safety should always be a top priority," said Dwinell. "These utilities stand out as strong examples of how to run an operation that keeps utility staff out of harm's way."

More than 255 utilities entered the annual contest. Entrants were placed in categories according to their number of worker hours and judged for the most incident-free records during 2010. The incidence rate, used to judge contest entries, is based on the number of work-related reportable injuries or illnesses and the number of worker-hours during 2010, as defined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

"A lot of work goes into building a strong safety record," said Robert Kardasz, Utilities Director at Stoughton Utilities. "Stoughton Utilities looks forward to continuing to improve its safety practices as it provides reliable service to the community."

The safety contest has been held annually for the last 51 years. APPA is the national organization representing more than 2,000 not-for-profit, community- and state- owned electric utilities.