



**Stoughton Utilities**

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*Serving Electric, Water & Wastewater Since 1886*

# News Release

## Stoughton Utilities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Local Leaders Advocate on National Energy Policy Issues**

**Stoughton, WI** – Municipal bonds are essential for communities like Stoughton to affordably build critical infrastructure and provide residents with essential services, and they should remain tax-exempt. That’s one of the messages local officials and utility managers delivered in person to members of Congress on March 7-9 in Washington, D.C., during the American Public Power Association’s Legislative Rally.

Robert Kardasz (Stoughton Utilities Director), Brian Hoops (Technical Operations Supervisor), and Stoughton Mayor Donna Olson participated in the event with funding support from the community’s not-for-profit power supplier, WPPI Energy.

Across the U.S., public power utilities like municipally owned Stoughton Utilities make \$20 billion in new investments financed with municipal bonds each year. This helps them affordably finance the power generation, distribution, efficiency and emissions controls equipment needed to deliver safe, affordable and reliable electricity for local customers.

“As Congress continues to consider possible approaches to tax reform and deficit reduction, we urged them to help us keep costs down by preserving the current tax exemption for municipal bonds,” said Robert Kardasz, Utilities Director.

Stoughton attendees met with Senators Johnson and Baldwin, as well as staff for Representative Pocan and Speaker Ryan during their visit.

Other topics at the meetings included ensuring that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's new rules for carbon emissions don't result in grid reliability issues, and making sure that local utilities can provide customers the renewable energy options they want while also protecting worker safety, system reliability and the equitable allocation of costs.

