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*Serving Electric, Water & Wastewater Since 1886*

# News Release

## Stoughton Utilities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Local Leaders Discuss Energy Policy in Washington D.C.**

New rules to limit carbon dioxide emissions from power plants should not unfairly burden customers of municipal utilities like Stoughton Utilities.

That's the message that local officials and utility managers delivered in person to members of Congress on March 10-12 in Washington, D.C., during the American Public Power Association's Legislative Rally. Stoughton Utilities Director, Robert Kardasz, participated in the event, which is sponsored by community power supplier WPPI Energy.

Kardasz met with Senators Tammy Baldwin and Ron Johnson, as well as Congressman Mark Pocan during his visit.

As the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency develops new rules for carbon emissions, the agency should take into account efforts that have been made to date, local leaders said.

"We shared with local policy makers that the WPPI Energy membership has already taken proactive steps to reduce emissions by 31% since 2005. That's considered a significant accomplishment in our industry," said Kardasz.

Preserving the tax exemption for municipal bonds and maintaining a balanced approach to cybersecurity regulations for electric utilities were among the other topics of conversation. Local governments rely on tax-exempt financing for building critical infrastructure, including electric and gas upgrades, attendees told lawmakers.

Limiting or eliminating the income tax exemption for interest from municipal bonds would reduce investments in vital infrastructure across the country and increase the cost of electricity for public power customers. The bill is currently in committee and being studied. If the surtax is added, it would directly affect Stoughton Utilities and the City of Stoughton, as well as the utility's rate payers.

“This event provides an opportunity for a face-to-face discussion with members of Congress in order to raise awareness of the impacts of federal policy on municipal electric utilities. Through the years, this interaction has proved invaluable to our efforts in protecting the interests of our customers,” said Kardasz.



Local officials and utility managers meet with Congressman Mark Pocan during the APPA Legislative Rally in Washington, D.C.

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Founded in 1886, Stoughton Utilities serves electric customers in Stoughton and the surrounding area; and wastewater and water customers in Stoughton.