



**Stoughton Utilities**

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*Serving Electric, Water & Wastewater Since 1886*

# News Release

## Stoughton Utilities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Brian Hoops, Utilities Assistant Director

### **Local Leaders Visit Capitol Hill to Discuss Energy Policy**

*Assistant Utility Director Brian Hoops advocated on behalf of Stoughton residents on issues of renewable energy, cyber security, and the supply chain crisis.*

Brian Hoops, Assistant Utilities Director advocated on behalf of Stoughton and Stoughton Utilities at the American Public Power Association's 2023 Legislative Rally Feb. 28 – Mar. 1. The annual event was held in Washington D.C. Hoops met personally with Wisconsin Senators Tammy Baldwin (D) and Ron Johnson (R), as well as Rep. Mark Pocan.

“Meeting with our legislators is a valuable opportunity to talk about our community and the policies that impact it,” stated Hoops. “It was good to sit down and discuss topics that matter to us and to our legislators, such as keeping our power supply safe, reliable and affordable.”

Representatives spoke during the meetings about the importance of considering energy affordability, reliability and sustainability while debating any change to US energy policy, and ensuring Stoughton Utilities has equitable access to critical incentives for wind, solar, hydropower, and other carbon-free energy resources. They also discussed keeping the energy grid safe from cyber attacks and alleviating the supply chain crisis affecting utilities across the nation. Lead times for purchasing utility equipment have more than tripled over the past 24 months and many new public power infrastructure projects have been delayed or canceled due to the supply chain issues.

“Meeting with our legislators is always important,” said Joseph Owen, director of government affairs for WPPI Energy. “We want to ensure national policy makers keep Stoughton Utilities customers in mind when they’re making legislative proposals in Washington, DC, because their decisions have real-life consequences in our local communities. We are fortunate to have a congressional delegation that listens to the voices of local communities and strives to help where they can.”



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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.*

*Member-owned, not-for-profit WPPI Energy serves Stoughton Utilities and 50 other locally owned electric utilities. Together, WPPI members have built a diverse, competitive and responsible power supply. They share advanced technologies, forward-thinking services and a unified voice for effective energy policy advocacy.*