

WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES RECOGNIZED AS A RELIABLE PUBLIC POWER PROVIDER

Willmar Municipal Utilities Earns Fourth Consecutive RP3® Designation

Willmar, MN — March 31, 2026 — Willmar Municipal Utilities (WMU) has earned the **Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3)® designation** from the American Public Power Association (APPA) for the fourth time, recognizing the utility's continued commitment to providing reliable and safe electric service to the Willmar community.

The RP3 designation, awarded for a three-year period, recognizes public power utilities that demonstrate excellence in four key areas: reliability, safety, workforce development, and system improvement. Criteria include sound business practices and a utility-wide commitment to the safe and reliable delivery of electricity. With this designation, WMU joins more than 258 public power utilities nationwide that currently hold RP3 status.

"Receiving an RP3 designation is a great honor and a testament to the work these utilities are doing to follow industry best practices," said Jeremy Ash, Chair of APPA's RP3 Review Panel and General Manager of the Kansas City Board of Public Utilities, Kansas. "These designees have distinguished themselves through a strong commitment to excellence and continuous improvement for the benefit of their communities."

"Receiving this distinguished designation is an acknowledgement of our team's dedication to delivering reliable electric service to our community," said Jeron Smith, General Manager of WMU. "This national recognition reflects our employees hard work and commitment."

The American Public Power Association has offered the RP3 designation for more than 21 years. APPA represents not-for-profit, community-owned utilities that power 55 million people across approximately 2,000 towns and cities nationwide, providing advocacy and guidance on electricity policy, technology, training, and operations.