



NEWS RELEASE

MASSACHUSETTS MUNICIPAL WHOLESALE ELECTRIC COMPANY

Contact: Kate Roy, Communications Supervisor
(413) 308-1351
kroy@mmwec.org

MMWEC Named “Innovative Partner of the Year” by National Clean Energy Group

Ludlow, MA – June 12, 2018 – Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC), the joint action agency for Massachusetts municipal utilities, has received a prestigious national award recognizing its innovative work in emerging energy technologies.

MMWEC today was named 2018 “Power Players Innovative Partner of the Year” by the Smart Electric Power Alliance (SEPA), a nonprofit organization working to facilitate the utility industry’s transition to a clean energy future. Now in their tenth year, the SEPA Power Players Awards honor utilities, their industry partners and individual thought leaders providing the vision, models and momentum for the electric power industry’s smart transition to a clean, modern energy future. Chosen by an independent panel of judges with diverse experience in the electric power industry, MMWEC will be honored at SEPA’s Grid Evolution Summit in Washington, D.C. on July 10.

“Innovation is the key to enabling municipal utilities to integrate and capture the benefits of clean energy technologies for their customers,” said MMWEC CEO Ronald C. DeCurzio. “MMWEC is honored to be recognized by SEPA for its emerging technology initiatives, which are helping municipal utilities keep pace with fast-moving trends in the electric industry,” he said.

MMWEC is being recognized for work in partnership with its member utilities to implement services that include the procurement, installation and remote dispatch of energy storage systems in a manner that reduces costs for consumers. MMWEC’s peak load forecasting and remote dispatch services enable the automated dispatch of batteries and other distributed energy resources during peak demand hours. This reduces peak loads, which determine a utility’s transmission and capacity costs, resulting in savings for consumers.

After a trial period with a single utility, MMWEC expanded these services as other members added distributed energy resources to their systems. Currently, MMWEC is remotely dispatching seven distributed energy resources for six member utilities, and will add three more resources by the end of the year. MMWEC is able to dispatch these resources 24 hours a day, seven days a week from its headquarters in Ludlow to further optimize their value for the utilities.

The SEPA award also recognizes other initiatives of MMWEC’s emerging technologies team, including an electric vehicle/charging program; acquisition of grants to fund energy-efficient streetlights, energy storage and reduced-emissions bucket trucks; and a unique Pooled Loan Program that enables members to finance clean energy projects using MMWEC’s tax-exempt financing authority.

“Clearly, solar, storage and other distributed energy resources should no longer be seen as ‘disruptive,’ but as key drivers of an ongoing evolution of the grid and the benefits it can provide to customers, utilities and society in general,”

Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company, 327 Moody St., Ludlow, MA 01056

said SEPA President and CEO Julia Hamm. “MMWEC is an example of the industry’s spirit of innovation and leadership as we continue to move toward a smart, clean and modern electric grid,” Hamm said.

MMWEC is the joint action agency for public power in Massachusetts, providing a variety of power supply, financial, risk management and other services to the state’s consumer-owned, municipal utilities. MMWEC was created in 1969 and through an act of the state legislature became a nonprofit, public corporation and political subdivision of the Commonwealth in 1976 , empowered to issue tax-exempt bonds to finance energy facilities for the benefit of municipal utilities and their customers.

SEPA is an educational nonprofit working to facilitate the utility industry’s transition to a clean energy future through education, research, standards and collaboration. SEPA offers a range of research initiatives and resources, as well as conferences, educational events and professional networking opportunities. SEPA is founder and co-sponsor of Solar Power International and winner of the Keystone Policy Center’s 2016 Leadership in Energy Award. For more information on SEPA, visit www.sepapower.org.

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