



AWARDS PROGRAM

# WPPI Energy Awards Program 2024 Call for Nominations

WPPI Energy is pleased to present its awards program to recognize outstanding individual achievement in member communities. The purpose of this program is to recognize and honor those member utility employees and public officials who have made extraordinary contributions to the success of WPPI and to showcase individuals who have made their communities better places to live and work through their dedication to local groups, clubs and organizations.

If you would like to nominate a worthy individual or utility eligible for one of these awards, please submit the appropriate form in this packet. A utility employee other than the nominee must complete the form. Governing body officials also can nominate an individual or utility.

**Award recipients will be honored during a special ceremony at the WPPI Annual Meeting on Thursday, September 19 at Glacier Canyon Lodge in Wisconsin Dells, Wis. All nominations are due Friday, July 12.**

## Awards Program Categories

### Joint Action Hall of Fame Award

(WPPI's highest honor)\*

### Jim Coutts Distinguished Service Award

### Community Service Award

Given in Memory of Richard "Dixie" Kirchoff

### Individual Achievement Award

### Shining Star Award

### Utility Leadership Award

### Volunteer Power! Award

### Awards Program Judging Committee:

**Kevin Westhuis** - River Falls, **Steve Brooks** - Waupun  
**Michael Avanzi** - Kaukauna, **Chris Krogman** - Maquoketa  
**Ben Collins** - Cedarburg, **Scott Gald** - Richland Center

\*The Awards Program Judging Committee will evaluate potential candidates for the Joint Action Hall of Fame Award and make a recommendation to the Executive Committee for approval. The Awards Program Judging Committee will select the recipients of the other awards.

# Joint Action Hall of Fame Award

The highest level of honor

## Eligibility

Individuals who have made extraordinary and substantial contributions to the development and success of WPPI and joint action.

## Criteria

The nominee is recommended for this award on the following basis:

- » Contributions of major significance to the development and success of WPPI.
- » Contributions of major significance to joint action.

## Selection Process

Since the Hall of Fame represents WPPI's most prestigious award, the final determination in granting this honor will be made by the WPPI Executive Committee. The Awards Program Judging Committee, in conjunction with WPPI staff, will provide a list of potential nominees who meet the criteria to receive this award to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may evaluate these nominees and determine whether they receive the award. Given the exclusivity of membership in the Hall of Fame, it is possible that the award may not be bestowed in any given year.

Members do have the ability to provide names for consideration. If you would like to suggest a potential candidate, please contact staff or a member of the committee.

# Jim Coutts Distinguished Service Award

For public officials

## Eligibility

A public official of a WPPI member who has been an active participant in WPPI for at least five years and has made an outstanding contribution to the success of WPPI as an industry leader.

## Public power officials include:

- » Utility commissioners (or members of equivalent governing bodies)
- » Members of city council, village board or town board
- » Mayors, village presidents, city managers or administrators

## Criteria

The nominee is recommended for this award on the following basis:

- » Involvement in activities to build grassroots support for legislative and regulatory policies that benefit WPPI members and customers (e.g. letters to the editor, press conferences, public hearings).
- » Active participation in state and national activities to promote the interests of WPPI members, customers and public power in general (e.g. APPA Rally, MEUW Legislative Rally, similar rallies in Michigan & Iowa, contacts with legislators).
- » Contributions to raise general awareness of locally owned utilities and WPPI among legislators, regulators, other governmental officials and the media.
- » Special contributions to WPPI's success.

### I nominate for consideration for the WPPI Jim Coutts Distinguished Service Award:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Utility: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Please print, type or submit an electronic nomination. Reformat and add additional pages as necessary.

**An online nomination form is available at [wppienergy.org/awards](http://wppienergy.org/awards).**

# Jim Coutts Distinguished Service Award

## The nominee is recommended for this award on the following basis:

(For each of the following, please list and/or describe the nominee's qualifications)

1. Years in which the nominee has been active in WPPI: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Involvement in activities to build grassroots support for legislative and regulatory policies that benefit WPPI members and customers: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Active participation in state and national activities to promote the interests of WPPI members, customers and public power in general: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Contributions to raise general awareness of locally owned utilities and WPPI among legislators, regulators, other governmental officials and the media: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Special contributions to WPPI's success and any additional qualifications: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Respectfully Submitted:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Utility: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline is Friday, July 12, 2024**

Submit all entries to:

**Kayla Pierce**

**[kpierce@wppienergy.org](mailto:kpierce@wppienergy.org)**

Member Relations Coordinator

WPPI Energy

1425 Corporate Center Drive

Sun Prairie WI 53590-9019

# Community Service Award

in Memory of Richard "Dixie" Kirchoff

For public officials and member utility managers

## Eligibility

A public official or a member utility manager of a WPPI member with at least five years of exceptional service to their utility and community.

## Public power officials include:

- » Utility commissioners (or members of equivalent governing bodies)
- » Members of city council, village board or town board
- » Mayors, village presidents, city managers or administrators

## Criteria

The nominee is recommended for this award on the following basis:

- » Outstanding contributions to the success of the member utility.
- » Participation in activities to achieve the goals of the member utility.
- » Contributions to enhance the image of the utility and demonstrate its value to the community.
- » Contributions to the community through participation in community organizations, events, projects and more.

### I nominate for consideration for the WPPI Community Service Award:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Utility: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Please print, type or submit an electronic nomination. Reformat and add additional pages as necessary.

**An online nomination form is available at [wppienergy.org/awards](http://wppienergy.org/awards).**

# Community Service Award

The nominee is recommended for this award on the following basis:

(For each of the following, please list and/or describe the nominee's qualifications)

1. Years in which the nominee has been active as a public official in the community: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Outstanding contributions to the success of the member utility: \_\_\_\_\_

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3. Participation in activities to achieve the goals of the member utility: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

4. Participation in activities to achieve the goals of the member utility and enhance the image of the utility to

demonstrate its value to the community: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

5. Contributions to the community through participation in community organizations, events, projects and more:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Respectfully Submitted:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Utility: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Member Relations Coordinator

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# Individual Achievement Award

For member utility managers and employees

## Eligibility

A member utility manager or employee who has been an active participant in WPPI activities for at least five years and has made a significant contribution to the success of WPPI through work on committees, task forces, advisory groups, etc.

## Criteria

The nominee's achievement or sustained performance has:

- » Benefited all members.
- » Benefited the nominating member utility.
- » Contributed to WPPI through work on committees, advisory groups, task forces, programs, events, speaking, strategic initiatives, membership goals, etc.
- » Contributed to the development of specific member programs or services.
- » Been widely recognized among WPPI members.

### I nominate for consideration for the WPPI Individual Achievement Award:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Utility: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Please print, type or submit an electronic nomination. Reformat and add additional pages as necessary.

**An online nomination form is available at [wppienergy.org/awards](http://wppienergy.org/awards).**

# Individual Achievement Award

The nominee is recommended for this award on the following basis:  
(For each of the following, please list and/or describe the nominee's qualifications)

1. Years in which the nominee has been active in WPPI: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Achievements that have benefited the nominating member utility: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Achievements that have benefited all WPPI members such as contributions on WPPI committees, advisory groups, task forces, programs, events, speaking and strategic initiatives, membership goals, etc.: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

4. Contributed to the development of specific member programs or services: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

5. Been widely recognized among WPPI members: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

### Respectfully Submitted:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Utility: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Member Relations Coordinator  
WPPI Energy  
1425 Corporate Center Drive  
Sun Prairie WI 53590-9019



# Shining Star Award

For utility staff

## Eligibility

Utility managers or employees, new OR seasoned within the member utility.

## Criteria

The nominee is recommended for this award on the following basis:

- » Showing growth and leadership
- » Proven leadership and dedication to strategic initiatives within the utility
- » Has gone above and beyond the “call of duty”

### I nominate for consideration for the WPPI Shining Star Award:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Utility: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Please print, type or submit an electronic nomination. Reformat and add additional pages as necessary.

**An online nomination form is available at [wppienergy.org/awards](http://wppienergy.org/awards).**

# Shining Star Award

The nominee is recommended for this award on the following basis:  
(For each of the following, please list and/or describe the nominee’s qualifications)

1. Leadership within the utility: \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Involvement in strategic initiatives: \_\_\_\_\_

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3. How has this nominee gone above and beyond the “call of duty?” \_\_\_\_\_

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4. What makes this nominee a shining star within the utility? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Respectfully Submitted:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Utility: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline is Friday, July 12, 2024**  
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Member Relations Coordinator  
WPPI Energy  
1425 Corporate Center Drive  
Sun Prairie WI 53590-9019

# Utility Leadership Award

For member utilities

## Eligibility

WPPI member utilities.

## Criteria

The utility is recommended for this award on the following basis:

- » Advancement of WPPI membership strategic initiatives
- » Has provided benefits to the membership
- » Has shown to be a model for other utilities to follow
- » Has been a strong supporter of public power and joint action

### I nominate for consideration for the WPPI Utility Leadership Award:

Utility: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Please print, type or submit an electronic nomination. Reformat and add additional pages as necessary.

**An online nomination form is available at [wppienergy.org/awards](http://wppienergy.org/awards).**

# Utility Leadership Award

The nominee is recommended for this award on the following basis:  
(For each of the following, please list and/or describe the nominee's qualifications)

1. Advancement of WPPI membership strategic initiatives: \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Leadership within the membership and model of success: \_\_\_\_\_

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3. Support for joint action and public power: \_\_\_\_\_

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4. Additional qualifications: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Respectfully Submitted:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Utility: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline is Friday, July 12, 2024**

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# Volunteer Power! Award

For member employees

## Eligibility

Member utility employees (electric and water).

## Criteria

Nominee must:

- » Volunteer (without pay) for one or more charitable causes, outside organizations or community events during the award year (2023–2024).
- » Demonstrate exceptional leadership and contributions in volunteer efforts.
- » Contribute to the betterment of the community, service area and/or county.

### I nominate for consideration for the WPPI Volunteer Power! Award:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Utility: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Please print, type or submit an electronic nomination. Reformat and add additional pages as necessary.

**An online nomination form is available at [wppienergy.org/awards](http://wppienergy.org/awards).**

# Volunteer Power! Award

The nominee is recommended for this award on the following basis:

(For each of the following, please list and/or describe the nominee's qualifications)

1. Volunteer efforts within community during the award year (2023–2024): \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Demonstration of leadership in volunteer efforts: \_\_\_\_\_

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3. Contribution to the betterment of the community, service area and/or county (e.g. how do these efforts help the community, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

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## Respectfully Submitted:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Utility: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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