



**HUTCHINSON UTILITIES COMMISSION RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION
FOR RELIABLE ELECTRIC OPERATIONS**

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 29, 2010—Hutchinson Utilities Commission is one of 94 of the nation’s more than 2,000 public power utilities to earn Reliable Public Power Provider (RP₃[®]) recognition from the American Public Power Association for providing consumers with the highest degree of reliable and safe electric service. Paul Allen, vice president, engineering at Nashville, Tenn., Electric Service and chair of APPA’s RP₃ Review Panel, presented the designees on March 29, during the association’s annual Engineering & Operations Technical Conference, held in Omaha, Nebraska.

“The RP₃ designation represents a high level of service to Hutchinson Utilities customers,” said Allen, “These 94 utilities stand out as models of safe and reliable utility operations.”

The RP₃ recognizes public power utilities that demonstrate proficiency in four key disciplines: reliability, safety, workforce development and system improvement. Criteria within each category are based on sound business practices and represent a utility-wide commitment to safe and reliable delivery of electricity.

“We’re honored to receive our RP₃ designation,” said Mike Kumm, General Manager of Hutchinson Utilities. “Our utility staff puts in a lot of hard work to provide reliable and safe service to our community. RP₃ is a much appreciated recognition of this hard work.”

This is the fifth year that RP₃ recognition has been offered. APPA is the national organization representing more than 2,000 not-for-profit, community- and state- owned electric utilities. It is located in Washington, D.C.