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**EPB receives national energy innovator award**

**San Diego, California, June 11, 2024** — EPB of Chattanooga, Tennessee, received an American Public Power Association Energy Innovator Award during the American Public Power Association’s National Conference in San Diego, California. The award honors utilities that have developed or applied creative, energy-efficient techniques and technologies to their work, in order to provide better service to electric customers or projects that increase the efficiency of utility operations or resource efficiency.

EPB saw significant damage following tornados in 2020 that left 62,000 homes without power and inflicted nearly $40 million in damage to the utility’s grid. To improve resilience to future storms, EPB and the City of Chattanooga created the Power to Protect microgrid, which included the purchase and installation of a 500 kW/1000 kWh battery, a 200-kW diesel generator, and 155 kW of behind-the-meter solar panels at its Police Services and Fire Department administrative headquarters. The battery, supported by the solar array, can support the full load of the site during an outage, ensuring continued operation of the emergency services building. Throughout the year, the 1,000-kilowatt-hour battery also helps reduce the utility’s peak demand, decreasing costs for residents.

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*The American Public Power Association is the voice of not-for-profit, community-owned utilities that power 2,000 towns and cities nationwide. We represent public power before the federal government to protect the interests of the more than 49 million people that public power utilities serve, and the 96,000 people they employ. Our association advocates and advises on electricity policy, technology, trends, training, and operations. Our members strengthen their communities by providing superior service, engaging citizens, and instilling pride in community-owned power.*