

**American Public Power Association  
PUBLICLY OWNED ELECTRIC UTILITIES GOVERNANCE SURVEY, 2020**

Name of Utility \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person \_\_\_\_\_  
Completing Survey \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN SURVEY by February 26, 2021 to: Clay Bryan, APPA**

**Online: <http://publicpower.Governance2020.alchemer.com/s3/>**

**or by e-mail: [cbryan@publicpower.org](mailto:cbryan@publicpower.org)**

**or mail to : Clay Bryan, Government Relations Assistant, American Public Power Association,  
2451 Crystal Drive, Suite 1000, Arlington, VA 22202**

- =====
1. What governing body exercises primary policy control over your electric utility?  
 Independent utility board  
 City council (includes town or county council, board of selectmen, board of trustees, city commission)  
 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
  
  2. Is the governing body that exercises primary control elected or appointed?  
 Elected  Appointed  
If appointed, by whom? \_\_\_\_\_  
If the appointment must be approved, by whom? \_\_\_\_\_
  
  3. How is the chair of the governing board named?  
 Mayor is chair of the governing body  
 Elected as chair when governing body is elected  
 Named by other members of the governing body  
 Appointed  
If appointed, by whom? \_\_\_\_\_
  
  4. Is the governing body that exercises primary control paid?  Yes  No  
If yes, how much are individual members paid?  
(Please show the amount per meeting, per month, or per year, whichever is easiest to provide.)  
 per meeting: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated number of meetings per year \_\_\_\_\_  
 per month: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 per year: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  
  5. During the COVID pandemic where in-person Board meeting participation option has been eliminated and replaced with a zoom-like meeting, has your board member compensation for meeting participation been reduced?  Yes  No  Board members not compensated for meeting
  
  - 5a. If compensation has been reduced for virtual meetings, by how much has the compensation been reduced? \_\_\_\_\_
  
  6. Are governing board members eligible for the city/utility's employee benefit plans?  
Medical benefits  Yes  No  
Retirement benefits  Yes  No
  
  7. What is the term length for a member of the governing body of the utility? \_\_\_\_\_  
Is there a limit to the number of terms a member can serve?  Yes  No  
If yes, what is the limit to the number of terms? \_\_\_\_\_
  
  8. Is there a body, such as a Citizens Advisory Committee or Citizens Advisory Board, that serves in an advisory capacity to the governing body?  Yes  No

9. If the utility's governing body is an independent utility board:  
 Are board members required to be utility customers or city residents?  Yes  No

10.. Indicate which governing body or individual is responsible for **final approval** to:

	<u>Independent Utility Board</u>	<u>City Council</u>	<u>Town Meeting</u>	<u>State Utility Commission</u>	<u>Other (specify)</u>
Set retail electric rates	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Approve utility budget	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Set salaries of key utility officials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Issue long-term bonds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Make financial investments for electric utility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Approve purchased power contracts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Exercise right of eminent domain	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Hire and fire utility personnel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

11. Does the electric utility make regular payments-in-lieu-of-taxes or transfers to the general fund of the government?  Yes  No  
 If yes: Is the amount determined by an established formula?  Yes  No  
 If there is no established formula, which governing body or individual has final approval of the amount to be paid? \_\_\_\_\_

12. Is a voter referendum required to issue revenue bonds for the utility?  Yes  No

13. What action is required to sell the utility?  
 Vote of the governing body?  Yes  No  
 If yes, what is needed?  Majority  Super majority  
  
 Referendum of voters?  Yes  No  
 If yes, what is needed?  Majority  Super majority  
  
 Other (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

14. Has the utility's regulatory authority passed an ordinance or regulation dealing with the issue of aggregation of distributed energy resources, including demand response, for sale into the wholesale power market?  Yes  No

**The following two questions are for municipally-owned utilities only.**

15. Does the utility serve electric customers outside of the municipal boundary?  Yes  No  
 If yes: Estimate the percentage of customers outside of the municipal boundary: \_\_\_\_\_%  
 Is it a requirement that the governing body include a representative from customers outside of the municipal boundaries?  Yes  No  
 Does the utility make payments-in-lieu-of-taxes to jurisdictions it serves outside of the municipal boundaries?  Yes  No  
 Does the utility have separate rate schedules for customers outside of the municipal boundaries?  Yes  No

16. What other utilities in your community are municipally owned?  
 Gas  Water  Sewer  Wastewater  Cable TV  
 Other (specify)\_\_\_\_\_