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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NWPPA announces 2015 Excellence in Communication awards



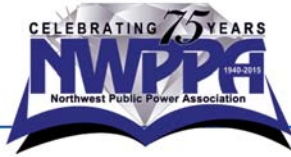
The 2015 Excellence in Communication winners at last week's awards banquet.

Vancouver, Wash. – Now in its 22nd year, the Excellence in Communication contest recognizes the top communication efforts from Northwest Public Power Association (NWPPA) member utilities and associations. NWPPA presented the awards at its Northwest Communications & Energy Innovations Conference (NIC) awards banquet at Harveys in Lake Tahoe, Nev., on Tuesday, September 15.

This year, NWPPA received 176 entries from 37 different utility and association members.

“We presented 94 awards to a talented and creative group of communicators. I am proud to be associated with those who do such a great job telling the public power story,” said 2015 NIC Chairman Joel Myer from Mason County PUD No. 3 in Shelton, Wash. “Congratulations again to everyone for your entries and awards!”

Categories are broken up into four groups: Group A utilities having the smallest number of customers and Group D having the largest. Nine local marketing and communication professionals volunteered their time to judge the entries. A complete list of the first-, second-, and third-place winners can be found on the following pages.



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In addition to the Excellence in Communication awards, NWPPA presented the 2015 Tom Hougan Award for the best overall communication effort to Clark Public Utilities in Vancouver, Wash. The utility originally won this award in 2003, and is only the second one to have won the Tom Hougan Award twice. This year, Clark Public Utilities received a perfect score (in the Special Publication category), two more first-place awards, and three second-place awards. Their overall score for all of their entries was an impressive 43 out of 50 points (which includes their winning entries as well as ones that did not place in the top three). Clark Public Utilities Director of Communications Lena Wittler and Corporate Communications Manager Erica Erland accepted the award on the utility's behalf at the banquet.

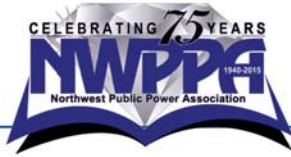


Erica Erland (L) and Lena Wittler (R) accepted the award from 2015 NIC Chair Joel Myer.

“Public power is unique when it comes to communications. We’re not often cutting edge, but we *are* sincere customer advocates doing our best to provide timely information in creative, relevant ways – often with limited budgets and tight resources. It’s an approach all of us at public utilities have in common,” said Erland. “Receiving the Tom Hougan award is truly an honor for our department, particularly after seeing all the impressive work being done by other utilities in our region.”

The 2016 Excellence in Communication awards will be presented on September 13, 2016.

About NWPPA: NWPPA is an international not-for-profit trade association representing and serving nearly 150 customer-owned, locally controlled utilities in the Western U.S. and Canada. The Association also serves approximately 300 associate members across the U.S. and Canada who are allied with the electric utility industry. Visit www.nwppa.org, follow us on [Twitter](#), and like us on [Facebook](#) for more information.



2015 Excellence in Communication Award Winners

Annual Report

Group A	1 st place:	Clatskanie PUD
	2 nd place:	Clearwater Power Company
	3 rd place:	Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Group B	1 st place:	Kootenai Electric Cooperative
	2 nd place:	Salem Electric
	3 rd place:	Columbia River PUD
Group C	1 st place:	Mason County PUD No. 3
	2 nd place:	Chelan County PUD
	3 rd place:	Idaho Falls Power
Group D	1 st place:	*BPA
	2 nd place:	Energy Northwest
	3 rd place:	Snohomish County PUD

Newsletter

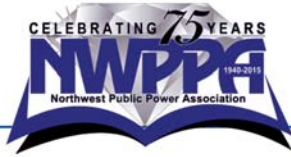
Group A	1 st place:	Lincoln Electric Cooperative
	2 nd place:	Mason County PUD #1
	3 rd place:	Umatilla Electric Cooperative
Group B	1 st place:	Columbia River PUD
	2 nd place:	Homer Electric Association
	3 rd place:	Kootenai Electric Cooperative
Group C	1 st place:	Peninsula Light Co.
	2 nd place:	Mason County PUD No. 3
	3 rd place:	Flathead Electric Cooperative
Group D	1 st place:	Benton PUD
	2 nd place:	EWEB
	3 rd place:	Clark Public Utilities

Advertising Campaign

Group A	1 st place:	Clearwater Power Company
	2 nd place:	Mason County PUD No. 1
	3 rd place:	Clatskanie PUD
Group B	1 st place:	*Fall River Electric Cooperative
	2 nd place:	Kootenai Electric Cooperative
	3 rd place:	City of Richland
Group C	1 st place:	Chelan County PUD
	2 nd place:	Flathead Electric Cooperative
	3 rd place:	Clallam PUD
Group D	1 st place:	Energy Northwest
	2 nd place:	Silicon Valley Power
	3 rd place:	EWEB

Special Publication

Group A	1 st place:	Clearwater Power Company
	2 nd place:	Ravalli Electric Cooperative
	3 rd place:	Skamania County PUD
Group B	1 st place:	Homer Electric Association
	2 nd place:	Midstate Electric Cooperative



Group C 3rd place: **Fall River Electric Cooperative**
1st place: **Idaho Falls Power**
2nd place: **Flathead Electric Cooperative**
Group D 3rd place: **Clallam PUD**
1st place: ***Clark Public Utilities**
2nd place: **Snohomish County PUD**
3rd place: **EWEB**

Website

Group A 1st place: **Mason County PUD No. 1**
2nd place: **Skamania County PUD**
3rd place: **Copper Valley Electric**
Group B 1st place: **Salem Electric**
2nd place: **Columbia River PUD**
3rd place: **Alaska Electric Light & Power Co.**
Group C 1st place: **Peninsula Light Co.**
2nd place: **Clallam PUD**
3rd place: **Flathead Electric Cooperative**
Group D 1st place: **Clark Public Utilities**
2nd place: **EWEB**

Social Media

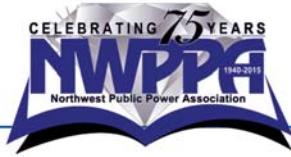
Group A 1st place: **Mason County PUD No. 1**
2nd place: **Clearwater Power Company**
Group B 1st place: **Emerald PUD**
2nd place: **Coos-Curry Electric Cooperative**
3rd place: **Kootenai Electric Cooperative**
Group C 1st place: **Mason County PUD No. 3**
2nd place: **Chelan County PUD**
3rd place: **Peninsula Light Co.**
Group D 1st place: **Clark Public Utilities**
2nd place: **EWEB**
3rd place: **Energy Northwest**

Photography

Group A 1st place: **Big Flat Electric Cooperative**
2nd place: **Clatskanie PUD**
3rd place: **Ravalli Electric Cooperative**
Group B 1st place: **Kootenai Electric Cooperative**
2nd place: **Emerald People's Utility District**
3rd place: **Columbia River PUD**
Group C 1st place: **Flathead Electric Cooperative**
2nd place: **Chelan County PUD**
3rd place: **Idaho Falls Power**
Group D 1st place: **Roseville Electric Utility**
2nd place: **Energy Northwest**
3rd place: **Clark Public Utilities**

Wild Card

Group A 1st place: **Clearwater Power Company**
2nd place: **Clatskanie PUD**



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Group B	3 rd place:	Columbia REA
	1st place:	Okanogan County PUD
	2nd place:	Kootenai Electric Cooperative
Group C	3rd place:	Midstate Electric Cooperative
	1st place:	Chelan County PUD
	2nd place:	Mason County PUD No. 3
Group D	3rd place:	Peninsula Light Co.
	1st place:	Roseville Electric Utility
	2nd place:	Eugene Water and Electric Board
	3rd place:	Clark Public Utilities

** Denotes a perfect score of 50 out of 50.*