



# Borough of Chambersburg

*A full service municipality in Franklin County celebrating over 65 years of consumer owned natural gas service over 120 years of community electric and a regional wastewater, water, storm sewer and municipal solid waste utility*

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Chambersburg Borough Electric Department Earns Top National Ranking National Association Honors Utility Leaders at Conference

May 1, 2023 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Chambersburg Borough Electric Department has earned a Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3)<sup>®</sup> Diamond designation from the American Public Power Association for providing reliable and safe electric service.

This is the top honor given to municipal electric systems throughout the U.S.A.

Chambersburg is the largest of the 35 boroughs in Pennsylvania that deliver electricity to homes and businesses as well as being the only one to operate multiple power plants. In 2022, a survey indicated that Chambersburg Borough's non-profit electric pool had the lowest residential retail rates in the Commonwealth.

The RP3 designation, which lasts for three years, recognizes public power utilities that demonstrate proficiency in four key disciplines: reliability, safety, workforce development, and system improvement. Criteria include sound business practices and a utility-wide commitment to safe and reliable delivery of electricity. Chambersburg joins 271 public power utilities nationwide that hold the RP3 designation.

"Receiving an RP3 designation is a great honor signifying a utility has demonstrated commitment to industry best practices," says Troy Adams, Chair of APPA's RP3 Review Panel and General Manager at Manitowoc Public Utilities, Wisconsin. "And ultimately, the culture developed from this pursuit of excellence and continued improvement through the RP3 program results in measurable value delivered to the local community"

"We couldn't be prouder to be honored with this Diamond designation," said Jeffrey Stonehill, Chambersburg Borough Manager and Director of Utilities. "This is the culmination of a lot of work from a lot of people who really care about powering our community. But this designation is not a final destination. We are committed to continuing to look for ways to improve our operations and service to our customers."

"I would like to especially give thanks to our new Director of the Electric Utility Jeff Heverley, as well as his predecessor Ron Pezon, who is in the process of retiring from the Borough, and Electric Crew Supervisor Chuck Piper for this award. Through their leadership, the Electric Department team has experienced many challenges over the last few years, and this award is a recognition of the entire department's excellence," added Stonehill. "Chambersburg utilities are regularly recognized as some of the best public systems in the U.S.A."

Chambersburg is the only municipality in Pennsylvania to operate all their own municipal utilities including electric, natural gas, water, sewer, and storm sewer systems. Chambersburg has the largest borough budget in Pennsylvania as result of these utilities but some of the lowest utility rates.

If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Heverley at [jheverley@chambersburgpa.gov](mailto:jheverley@chambersburgpa.gov).

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#### About Chambersburg:

Chambersburg is a unique community. Chambersburg supplies more services than any other municipality in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In addition to typical town functions, Chambersburg is Pennsylvania's only municipality providing electric and gas to residents and businesses. Chambersburg is 1 of 35 Boroughs to operate a municipal non-profit electric utility. Chambersburg is the largest municipal electric utility in the State, twice as large as the second largest, Ephrata, Lancaster County; and, the only one to operate multiple generation stations. Chambersburg is 1 of 2 municipalities in PA to operate a natural gas utility. The other is Philadelphia, which does not operate an electric utility. Nationally, Chambersburg is 1 of 2,000 communities to have its own electric system and 1 of 1,000 communities to have a natural gas system but 1 of only about 60 to operate both. Chambersburg manages a regional water system, a regional sanitary sewer system (not through an independent Authority), and a new storm sewer utility; one of the first storm sewer utilities to form under the new Federal mandate to regulate stormwater. Chambersburg has a famous Aquatic Center as well. Chambersburg, the County Seat of Franklin County, currently has 20,832 residents (2020).

#### About APPA:

The American Public Power Association has offered the RP3 designation for 18 years now. APPA is the voice of not-for-profit, community-owned utilities that power 49 million people in 2,000 towns and cities nationwide. APPA advocates and advises on electricity policy, technology, trends, training, and operations.