

For Immediate Release
March 26, 2024

SMMPA AND ITS MEMBER UTILITIES HONORED BY EPA AS A 2024 ENERGY STAR® PARTNER OF THE YEAR

***Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (SMMPA) and its Member Utilities
earn fifth award for protecting the environment through energy efficiency***

Rochester, MN, March 26, 2024 – SMMPA and its 17 Member Municipal Utilities are proud to announce that they have received the 2024 ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

An ENERGY STAR partner since 2000, SMMPA and its members are being honored for their active and successful promotion of ENERGY STAR products to residential customers and continuous expansion of their portfolio to embrace new ENERGY STAR measures and initiatives. SMMPA and its members also received ENERGY STAR awards in 2003, 2004, 2010, and 2016 for their leadership in energy efficiency.

“SMMPA and our members truly value our partnership with ENERGY STAR,” said John O’Neil, Manager of Energy Efficiency & Member Support Programs. “It’s exciting to see the impact we and our members have made through our promotion of ENERGY STAR products, and we remain committed to helping our members’ customers use energy wisely and protect the environment.”

Each year, the ENERGY STAR program honors a select group of businesses and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to energy efficiency and the transition to a clean energy economy. ENERGY STAR award winners lead their industries in the production, sale, and adoption of energy-efficient products, homes, buildings, services, and strategies. These efforts have saved more than 5 trillion kilowatt-hours of electricity over the past 30 years.

“President Biden’s Investing in America agenda creates unprecedented opportunity to build a clean energy economy, and private sector partners through programs like ENERGY STAR are leading the way,” said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan. “I congratulate this year’s ENERGY STAR award winners for their innovation and leadership, in delivering cost-effective energy efficient solutions that create jobs, address climate change, and contribute to a healthier environment for all.”

Winners are selected from a network of thousands of ENERGY STAR partners. For a complete list of 2024 winners and more information about ENERGY STAR’s awards program, visit energystar.gov/awardwinners.

About SMMPA

SMMPA provides electricity and related services to 17 municipally operated utilities, mostly in south-central and southeastern Minnesota. For more information about SMMPA, please visit www.smmpa.com.

About ENERGY STAR

ENERGY STAR® is the government-backed symbol for energy efficiency, providing simple, credible, and unbiased information that consumers and businesses rely on to make well-informed decisions. Since 1992, ENERGY STAR and its partners helped American families and businesses avoid more than \$500 billion in energy costs and achieve more than 4 billion metric tons of greenhouse gas reductions. More background information about ENERGY STAR's impacts can be found at www.energystar.gov/impacts.

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