FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Local Leaders Advocate on National Energy Policy Issues

Marshfield WI - Municipal bonds are essential for communities like Marshfield to affordably build critical infrastructure and provide residents with essential services and they should remain tax-exempt. That’s one of the messages local officials and utility managers delivered in person to members of Congress on March 7-9 in Washington, D.C., during the American Public Power Association’s (APPA) Legislative Rally.

Utility Commissioners, Mike Eberl, John Maggitti, and Harry Borgman, along with Mayor Chris Meyer and General Manager Bob Trussoni participated in the national event.

Across the U.S., public power utilities, like municipally owned Marshfield Utilities, make $20 billion in new investments financed with municipal bonds each year. This helps them affordably finance the power generation, distribution, efficiency, and emissions controls equipment needed to deliver safe, affordable, and reliable electricity for local customers.

“As Congress continues to consider possible approaches to tax reform and deficit reduction, we urged them to help us keep costs down by preserving the current tax exemption for municipal bonds,” said Trussoni. “Marshfield Utilities would see approximately $300,000 more in bond interest if the existing debt was not tax-exempt.”

Marshfield attendees, along with the rest of the APPA group, met with Senators Ron Johnson and Tammy Baldwin and Speaker Ryan’s assistant Maryam Brown. The Marshfield group also met separately with Representative Shawn Duffy’s assistant Ryan McCormack during their visit.

Other topics at the meetings included ensuring that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s new rules for carbon emissions don’t result in grid reliability issues and making sure that local utilities can provide customers with the renewable energy options that they want while also protecting worker safety, system reliability, and the equitable allocation of costs.

Since 1904, Marshfield Utilities has been providing customers in the Marshfield, Wisconsin area with high-quality service while managing rates to enhance the service area's economy. With more than 13,800 electrical customers and 8,300 water customers, Marshfield Utilities maintains a rate of operating profit that provides adequate funds to meet current and future operational needs.

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