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September 25, 2012

### **BPU General Manager Named to National Climate Change and Generation Policy Task Force**

Jamestown Board of Public Utilities (BPU) General Manager David Leathers has been appointed to the American Public Power Association's (APPA) CEO Climate Change and Generation Policy Task Force.

Formed in 2006, this group of 30 public power industry leaders from all regions of the country, assists the APPA in developing national policy positions on climate change. The task force's mission expanded in 2011 to address environmental regulations impacting public power, as well as challenges surrounding resource management in public power.

"The electric utility sector faces an unprecedented number of environmental regulations over the next ten years that collectively will be the largest and most expensive in the history of the industry," noted APPA President and Chief Executive Officer Mark Crisson. "These regulations will likely result in permanent plant closures, as well as shutdowns for retrofits, that will impact reliability, increase electric rates for consumers, and affect our nation's economic recovery."

"The regulations will also have a significant impact on the types of fuel sources utilities use to generate electricity," continued Crisson. "In addition, these issues are intertwined with supply considerations, resource management, and the integration of renewables. The CEO Climate Change and Generation Policy Task Force will help APPA evaluate and develop policy recommendations on these critical issues impacting public power."

Leading the BPU since 2007, Leathers currently serves as the Third Vice President/Secretary of the New York Association of Public Power and as a member of the New York Upstate Regional Energy Council.

The Jamestown resident is a graduate of Jamestown High School, Jamestown Community College and the State University of New York at Buffalo. He also earned a Master's of Science in Manufacturing Management from the General Motors Institute in Flint, Michigan. In Jamestown, Leathers formerly held leadership positions at Cummins, Inc. and at Valeo where he worked as General Manager. In 2009, he was named the Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce Person of the Year.

“It is a great national recognition for the Jamestown BPU and its general manager, David Leathers, to be named to this important task force. The Jamestown BPU’s commitment to sensible environmental stewardship will be further strengthened by participation on this policy-making body,” commented BPU Chair John Zabrodsky.

“The Jamestown BPU, chartered by the City of Jamestown in 1923, is one of the first public power utilities created in our country and was one of the original 40 municipally-owned utilities to form the APPA in 1940,” stated Leathers. “I am proud to represent Jamestown and ‘our hometown utility’ on a national level.”

Public power is that segment of the country’s 2,200 not-for-profit electric utilities which are owned by their municipalities and customers. Because public power utilities are non-profit, the companies do not have to pay shareholders as for-profit entities must do, allowing public power companies to maintain lower electric rates for their customers.