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Arizona Public Service Wins 2025 AEIC Achievement Award for Virtual Power Plant

Phoenix, AZ— November 6, 2025 — The [Association of Edison Illuminating Companies](#) (AEIC), the electric utility industry's leading authority for operational excellence, announced today that [Arizona Public Service](#) (APS) has received one of the Association's 2025 Achievement Awards.

The AEIC Achievement Awards are presented annually to member companies who have clearly demonstrated significant contributions to advancing operational excellence in the electric utility industry.

APS was recognized for its virtual power plant built on customer partnerships. Over the past several years, APS has significantly expanded its virtual power plant capabilities, transforming what started as a pilot into a critical grid resource. APS now operates one of the largest virtual power plants in North America, approaching 200 megawatts (MW). This network includes thousands of customer-owned devices, such as smart thermostats, batteries and electric vehicles, which collectively act as an energy resource to reduce demand during peak periods.

"The programs offered as part of our virtual power plant are a major asset during extreme heat when demand on the power grid is high, as technology advances, we will continue to diversify and expand our programs, and remain focused on delivering reliable and affordable power for all APS customers." said Kerri Carnes, Director of Customer to Grid Solutions, APS.

Using its virtual power plant, APS became one of the first utilities to initiate a location-based demand response event after a severe microburst last summer caused damage to power poles and electrical equipment in Phoenix. APS partnered with customers enrolled in its Cool Rewards program to call a targeted conservation event. By using locational insights data, APS was able to identify the customer-sited technologies located near the impacted area to ease pressure on the grid exactly where it was needed, helping prevent outages and keep power flowing reliably to homes and businesses.

"This targeted grid support highlights the transformative role of a virtual power plant as a flexible resource," said Steve Hauser, CEO, AEIC. "APS is elevating operational excellence by demonstrating how its virtual power plant is capable of enhancing grid resilience, improving the ability to respond to extreme weather events, and delivering greater reliability for all of its customers."

APS was presented with the award on Thursday, November 6th at AEIC's 141st Annual Meeting in Charleston, SC. To see a full list of 2025 AEIC Achievement Award recipients, visit <https://aeic.org/achievement-awards/>.

About AEIC

AEIC brings together the electric utility industry's leading operations experts to rise to challenges, accelerate opportunities, and achieve excellence in all aspects of generation, transmission, distribution, and storage of electric power for the benefit of its members, the industry at large, and consumers, worldwide.

Founded by Thomas Edison and his associates in 1885, AEIC is the electric utility industry's longest-serving and preeminent association. Today, AEIC's members work closely together to share knowledge and provide guidance to the industry essential to achieving a modernized grid that delivers a secure energy future for all. To learn more about AEIC, its technical committees, and member companies, visit <https://aeic.org/>.

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