



Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mason PUD 1's Katie Arnold, Director of Business Services, Receives National Leadership Award



Seattle, Washington, June 21, 2023 — Katie Arnold, Director of Business Services and District Treasurer with Mason County Public Utility District No. 1, received the Robert E. Roundtree Rising Star Award during the American Public Power Association's National Conference in Seattle, Washington. The award is also a scholarship presented to future leaders in public power who are recognized by their peers for being creative problem solvers that perform their job responsibilities in an outstanding manner. As 2023's winner, Katie will receive a stipend to travel to one of APPA's conferences or training programs to advance her education and development in public power.

In 2016, Katie began as a consultant with Mason PUD 1 through a local accounting firm before eventually being hired by the PUD in a permanent accounting position and as the board-appointed treasurer for the District. She was soon promoted into a director-level leadership role and now oversees all administrative functions of the District. Having helped the District recover during a transition period of staff retirements and a backlog of financial reporting, Katie is recognized as a problem solver, a consensus builder, and a financial leader. In recognition of her outstanding work with the utility, she has also been selected to serve as co-chair of the Washington PUD Association's Finance Directors committee. Recently, Katie has dove headlong into the complexities of Washington State's new Clean Energy Transformation Act requirements to understand the financial implications for the PUD and has overseen the cost-of-service analysis to inform ratemaking and financial policies that she helped develop. She has also been instrumental in helping to procure \$16 million in grants and appropriations for Mason PUD 1 over the last five years.

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Incorporated in 1934, Mason County PUD No. 1 was the first public utility district formed in Washington State. PUD 1 provides non-for-profit water, sewer and electric services to approximately 8,500 customers in both Mason and Jefferson counties. The District's mission is to provide customers with safe, reliable and valued utility services.

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