Rudy Hultgren Dedicated Service Award

This award is presented annually by the **Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska** (MEAN) to an individual who displays commendable efforts in promoting public power and its ideals and in exemplifying what MEAN represents – devotion and dedication to public power and working together for the benefit of the community. **The Rudy Hultgren Dedicated Service Award winner receives a check in the amount of $500.00 to be given to a special project.**

Origin of the Award

Rudy Hultgren was a utility consultant and well-respected citizen of Lyons, Colo. who played an active leadership role in community service. The award was initiated in 1988.

Eligibility

Any appointed or elected utility board member, city council official or employee of a MEAN community is eligible.

Award Criteria

- Exceptional leadership to municipal public power and within MEAN;
- Devotion to duty;
- Excellence in management and operation of a municipal electric utility system;
- Contribution to the betterment of the community and MEAN;
- Service and contributions toward the attainment of MEAN's goals and promotion of municipal cooperation.

Examples of winning qualities

- Implements programs beneficial to employees' professional/personal growth
- Active involvement in MEAN and NMPP Energy (board/committee service)
- Knowledge of municipal utility system
- Developer of services to benefit customers (trash collection, recycling, etc.)
- Key role in major upgrade to community's electric system
- Excellence in managing utilities and other municipal departments
- Active community member
- Forward-thinking leadership
- Well-respected by co-workers and community

Recent Award Winners

- 2026 – Kirby Bridge, Alliance, Neb.
- 2025 – Doug Linton, Fort Morgan, Colo.
- 2024 – Nate Francis, Fairbury, Neb.
- 2023 – Doug Hazzard, Glenwood Springs, Colo.
- 2022 – Tanner McCall, Curtis, Neb.
- 2018 – Duane Hoffman, Oxford, Neb.
- 2017 – Randy Woldt, Wisner, Neb.
- 2016 – Phil Overeynder, Aspen, Colo.
- 2015 – Mike Beachler, Fairbury, Neb.
- 2014 – Mike Varney, Torrington, Wyo.
- 2013 – Pat Davison, Imperial, Neb.
- 2012 – Rod Fries, Sidney, Neb.
- 2011 – Richard "Doc" Pedersen, Burwell, Neb.
- 2010 – David Hoogestraat, Pierce, Neb.
- 2009 – Tom Ourada, Crete, Neb.
- 2008 – Harold Farrar, Kimball, Neb.

2027 Rudy Hultgren Dedicated Service Award Nomination

Name of Nominee: _____ Title:_____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone: _____

Your Name: _____ Your Title:_____
Utility Name: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip:_____
Telephone:_____

Give a brief explanation of how the nominee has been involved with the utility, municipal power and the Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska (MEAN), and why you are nominating your appointed or elected utility board member, city council, official, or employee.

Please return by February 19, 2027 to:

Amber Degner
Email : adegner@nmppenergy.org
Phone : 402-474-4759
Fax : 402-474-0473