



# AMEA *Communiqué*

Power That Works For You<sup>®</sup>

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#### MISSION STATEMENT

AMEA's mission is to provide for our Member communities a reliable and economical source of electric power, enabling them to preserve and enhance the benefits of municipal utility ownership for their citizens and the electric customers they serve. We strive to offer services that our Members need and can adapt to provide the best value for their communities and customers.

## AMEA is presented with SERC President's Award

SERC Reliability Corporation has presented its annual President's Award to Alabama Municipal Electric Authority (AMEA) for the utility's ongoing commitment to electric reliability excellence for its bulk power system.

The award, which was presented to AMEA at SERC's April Board of Directors meeting in Charlotte, NC, highlights the utility's superior commitment to reliability performance and the quality standard set for SERC's members and registered entities.

"AMEA's commitment to reliability excellence for the members it serves and participation in SERC are evidence for others that a small entity can be engaged in reliability activities and that mutual benefits can be derived from that participation," said Scott Henry, President and Chief Executive Officer of SERC Reliability Corporation.

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(L to R): Ray Phillips, AMEA Manager of Compliance and Special Projects, and Fred Clark, AMEA President & CEO, accept the SERC President's Award from Scott Henry, SERC President and Chief Executive Officer. The annual award recognizes exceptional reliability and compliance commitment.

## Award

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Fred Clark, President of AMEA, added, "AMEA can't afford not to be involved." He observed that "for entities like AMEA, heavy involvement to influence the outcomes is extremely important and provides value greater than the cost of participation."

SERC is a non-profit corporation responsible for promoting and improving the reliability, adequacy, and critical infrastructure of the bulk power supply system in all or portions of 16 central and southeastern states, including the areas served by AMEA.

Owners, operators, and users of the bulk power system in these 16 states cover an area of approximately 560,000 square miles and comprise what is known as the SERC Region.

SERC serves as one of eight regional entities with delegated authority from the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) for the purpose of proposing and enforcing reliability standards within the SERC Region.

SERC is divided geographically into five diverse sub-regions that are identified as Central, Delta, Gateway, Southeastern and VACAR. The regional entities and all members of NERC work to safeguard the reliability of the bulk power systems throughout North America.

### Phillips elected co-chairman of SERC Board of Directors

Ray Phillips, AMEA Manager of Compliance and Special Projects, was elected co-chairman of the SERC Reliability Corporation Board of Directors during its April board meeting in Charlotte, NC. His term begins July 1.

Phillips has served in various capacities with SERC, including the Board of Directors, the Board Executive Committee, the Board Compliance Committee, and the SERC Operating Committee.

### AMEA plays special part in 50th anniversary of Hartwell Dam and Lake

On April 27, 1962, the Hartwell Power Plant generated and brought online the first electricity from its new hydroelectric facility. Fifty years later, in a special ceremony in Hartwell, GA, some 100 people gathered to mark the golden anniversary of the Hartwell Dam and Lake Project and to honor those people who made the project possible.

Alan Williford, vice president of the Southeastern Federal Power Customers, Inc. (SeFPC), and AMEA Manager of Planning and Engineering, delivered special remarks during the commemoration ceremony. SeFPC represents the hydropower interests of cooperatives and municipal systems in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia, which serve more than six million customers.

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**Alan Williford, vice president of SeFPC, and AMEA Manager of Planning and Engineering, offers special remarks during the Hartwell Dam and Lake 50th Anniversary Commemoration Ceremony on April 27.**

# Hartwell

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Hartwell Dam and Lake, which lies within Georgia and South Carolina on the Savannah, Tugaloo and Seneca Rivers, was the second U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Multipurpose Water Resources Development Project in the Savannah River Basin. Authorized by Congress under the Flood Control Act of 1950, the Hartwell Project was built for the purposes of hydropower, flood control, and downstream navigation. Additional authorized purposes of the project now include water supply, water quality, recreation, and fish and wildlife management. The entire Hartwell Project contains 76,450 acres of land and water.

Today, the Hartwell Project generates on average more than 468 million kilowatt hours of electricity per year – enough energy to meet the annual needs of more than 46,000 households. Hartwell also remains one of the top three most-visited Corps lakes in the nation, attracting a million visitors every year.

“Back in the mid-1940s, Congress recognized the need for better flood control and navigation,” said Williford. “To pay for these services, Congress passed laws that started the building of federal hydroelectric dams and sold the power for the dams under long-term contracts.

“Creation of the Power Marketing Administrations, including the Southeastern Power Administration (or SEPA), was one of the wisest moves that Congress made during the years when dams were being built around the country to protect against devastating flooding,” Williford added.

“Devising a way for the power customers to pay for these much needed projects while receiving the benefit of the electricity generated has been a sound idea.

“In fact, the revenue from the sale of electricity pays back all the costs of building, operating and maintaining hydro-electric facilities – and covers most of the costs of the reservoirs, which provide flood control, navigation and recreation,” he said. “The original cost of building dams such as Hartwell was considerable, and initially the electricity produced by lakes was more expensive than power from other sources. Forward-looking consumer-owned electric utilities, such as those represented by the SeFPC, believed hydropower would be an important future resource and contracted to buy the electricity produced by the Hartwell Lake, as well as others. So everyone benefits from the sale of electricity generated by the Hartwell Project.”

Williford said that the Preference Customers of the Georgia-Alabama-South Carolina System of projects depend on the 426 MW generating capacity of the Hartwell Project to meet a portion of their peak load requirements.

Since 1962, Hartwell has produced about 22 and a half billion kilowatt hours of clean, reliable and efficient electricity for consumer-owned electric utilities.

“On this special day, we take this opportunity to commend all of the Corps’ personnel – past and present – who work diligently every day to ensure the Hartwell facilities are ready to produce power when needed by the customers. To the skilled crafts persons, technicians, electricians, operators and engineers, we say congratulations on a job well done. We look forward to continuing our relationship with you for many more years.”

Also during the ceremony, Williford participated in recognizing 11 original Hartwell Project employees who were in attendance with a commemorative coin.

## League presents Municipal Quality of Life Award to City of Piedmont

The City of Piedmont was awarded a Municipal Quality of Life Award during the Alabama League of Municipalities 2012 Annual Convention in Birmingham this week. Piedmont received the award for its MPower Piedmont Program. Piedmont, along with the cities of Tarrant and Auburn, were chosen as the winners for their population categories – Under 5,000, 5001 to 12,000 and 12,001 and Over, respectively. They were recognized during the opening session of the convention.

This year's Municipal Quality of Life Awards program had 16 entries with winners and honorable mentions in three population categories. The communities of Parrish, Montevallo and Madison were chosen as the Honorable Mentions for those same population categories.

The Municipal Quality of Life Awards program was created to recognize outstanding projects in local government and to share those success stories with other municipalities.

Winners were chosen by a panel of four independent judges who are not employed by or affiliated with the Alabama League of Municipalities. Judging was based entirely on the written entries and supportive information and winners were chosen on how well entries met the three main objectives of the program: To recognize successful, innovative projects that improve the quality of life for citizens; to share those projects with other municipalities; and to demonstrate the value of cities and towns. **Source: *The Alabama Municipal Journal***



## ADECA offers Local Government Energy Loan Program

Has the heating and air conditioning in your school buildings seen better days? Does the wind coming in around the windows keep things 'stirred up' at City Hall? Does it cost so much to run the lights at the sports field that games are only played during daylight hours?

Then you may need the Local Government Energy Loan Program. This zero-interest loan program is available to any local government, city or county board of education, or public college or university in the state for the purpose of financing energy conservation projects in eligible facilities. Local governments, colleges and universities can receive up to \$350,000; and K-12 school systems can receive up to \$350,000 per campus and up to \$500,000 for each school system.

These zero-interest loans can be made for a period of up to 10 years, and you will likely be able to repay the loan from the cost savings of the energy retrofits. Eligible retrofits can include updating old heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment with more energy-efficient equipment, installing energy control systems, replacing single-pane windows with ENERGY STAR®-labeled windows, and installing energy-efficient pumps at wastewater treatment plants.

To see other energy retrofits that qualify for the Local Government Energy Loan Program and download the application booklet, visit the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) Energy Division website at [www.adeca.alabama.gov/Energy](http://www.adeca.alabama.gov/Energy), or call (334) 242-5321 for more information.

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