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New York Power Authority receives national energy innovator award

San Diego, California, June 11, 2024 — The New York Power Authority received an American Public Power Association Energy Innovator Award during the American Public Power Association's National Conference in San Diego, California. The award honors utilities that have developed or applied creative, energy-efficient techniques and technologies to their work, in order to provide better service to electric customers or projects that increase the efficiency of utility operations or resource efficiency.

In 2021, the New York Power Authority began leveraging Prisma Photonics' PrismaPower Technology to monitor a transmission line connecting substations in the Catskill Mountains. The more than 35 miles of line are often exposed to strong winds, significant snowfall, and severe weather conditions. NYPA gathered nearly two years of data to determine the effects of various weather conditions on the electric grid and in specific towers. This information can optimize maintenance and relay key details to crews before they arrive in the field. In addition to diagnosing power line health and flagging catastrophic events such as flashovers, short circuits, and vegetation strikes, the technology has the potential to detect wildfires and other extreme events that threaten grid reliability.

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The American Public Power Association is the voice of not-for-profit, community-owned utilities that power 2,000 towns and cities nationwide. We represent public power before the federal government to protect the interests of the more than 49 million people that public power utilities serve, and the 96,000 people they employ. Our association advocates and advises on electricity policy, technology, trends, training, and operations. Our members strengthen their communities by providing superior service, engaging citizens, and instilling pride in community-owned power.

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