EEI, IBEW Present Edwin D. Hill Award to El Paso Electric and IBEW Local 960

WASHINGTON (March 4, 2024) – The Edison Electric Institute (EEI) and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) today presented the Edwin D. Hill Award to El Paso Electric and IBEW Local 960. This distinguished award recognizes efforts to advance state and local initiatives on behalf of EEI’s member electric companies and IBEW members.

In 2023, El Paso Electric and IBEW Local 960 partnered to help present a clear vision for El Paso’s energy grid of the future. El Paso Electric and IBEW Local 960 worked together to educate local leaders and customers about a risky and complex ballot initiative that was being funded and pushed by out-of-state groups. They also educated community members about El Paso Electric’s commitment and plan to deliver resilient clean energy to all customers reliably and affordably. They engaged with local businesses, policymakers, and environmental groups to map out the best path forward for making El Paso’s energy grid stronger, smarter, cleaner, and more secure.

“IBEW Local 960 and El Paso Electric proved their commitment to community engagement and voter education and by doing so helped ensure reliant and clean energy for El Paso customers,” said IBEW International President Kenneth Cooper. “Local 960 and El Paso Electric showed how labor and management can come together when it comes promoting a secure, modern, and clean energy grid and good, middle-class jobs for every energy worker.”

“Through their partnership and their work, El Paso Electric and IBEW Local 960 reinforced their strong commitment to the customers they serve and demonstrated the value of community engagement and education,” said EEI President and CEO Dan Brouillette. “The leadership of El Paso Electric and IBEW Local 960 is helping to shape the future of our industry.”

“Our partnership with IBEW Local 960, spanning nearly eight decades, stands as a pillar of our region’s grid reliability and progress. Together, we are committed to ensuring that our leaders comprehend, uphold and advocate for policies that align with our mission of providing our region with safe, reliable, affordable and sustainable energy,” said Kelly Tomblin, EPE President and CEO. “I am proud of the formidable alliance between EPE and IBEW Local 960 that was a testament to the power of solidarity in the face of adversity as we stood shoulder to shoulder to ensure that jobs were preserved, futures were secured and progress continued unabated. Our
efforts resulted in the decisive defeat of a dangerous charter initiative in the past and we will remain an unwavering force ready to defend our mission in the future.”

Under the leadership of former IBEW International President Edwin D. Hill, the IBEW and EEI came together to create the National Labor and Management Public Affairs Committee (National LAMPAC). National LAMPAC strives to foster collaboration and partnership among electric company executives and IBEW leaders to address the nation’s energy challenges and to achieve the common goals of running a well-managed, efficient business with a safe and highly skilled workforce.

Hill was a transformative trade unionist who modernized and shepherded the IBEW through one of the deepest recessions in history. During his tenure, the IBEW held fast to its history and traditions while making key changes to modernize and to preserve the IBEW’s influence as one of North America’s most powerful voices for working people.

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The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) represents approximately 820,000 members and retirees who work in a wide variety of fields, including construction, utilities, manufacturing, telecommunications, broadcasting, railroads and government.

EEI is the association that represents all U.S. investor-owned electric companies. Our members provide electricity for nearly 250 million Americans, and operate in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The electric power industry supports more than 7 million jobs in communities across the United States. In addition to our U.S. members, EEI has more than 70 international electric companies, with operations in more than 90 countries, as International Members, and hundreds of industry suppliers and related organizations as Associate Members.