WHEREAS; every day, folks living and working in 81 communities across Wisconsin enjoy the benefits of being served by a municipal-owned electric utility; and

WHEREAS; public power utilities and their dedicated workers help to ensure thousands of individuals and families across our state have access to safe, reliable, and affordable electricity to power their homes and places of business; and

WHEREAS; most of Wisconsin’s public power utilities have been in continuous operation for more than a century, helping to build strong communities and contributing to the quality of life in towns, villages, and cities in every corner of our state; and

WHEREAS; by operating as not-for-profits, municipal utilities are able to focus primarily on satisfying customers, supporting their neighbors, and enhancing their communities; and

WHEREAS; public power utility employees are committed to working safely, maintaining essential services, and keeping the public out of harm’s way; and

WHEREAS; by collecting the input of community members and making decisions locally, the city councils, village boards, and utility commissions that oversee community-owned power companies are able to ensure that the local utility is financially stable, well-run, and responsive to the needs of the folks who live and work there; and

WHEREAS; throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, public power workers have embraced their role as essential workers, helping to keep the lights on and their hometowns and customers safe in these unprecedented times; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin, along with our nation’s more than 2,000 public power utilities, in celebrating the unique operational advantages of municipal-owned public power utilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim October 5 through 9, 2020, as

PUBLIC POWER WEEK

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state’s residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 1st day of October 2020.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State