

Effective Public Policy Advocacy

Report card

The MMUA Board of Directors and our Government Relations (GR) team, in collaboration with the Government Relations Working Group comprised of member utility leaders, developed a list of legislative priorities ahead of the 2023 session. While they worked tirelessly to promote the interest of members in these areas, the GR team had to quickly adapt to a legislative landscape dominated by the clean energy bill. Here is a brief synopsis of issues pertaining to MMUA members.



MMUA's Kent Sulem testifies on SF4, the Senate's carbon reduction bill.

Issue	Goal	Status
Energy resource mandates	State the collective position of municipal utilities that carbon-free mandates disproportionately affect hometown power; clarify off-ramp rules.	MMUA educated legislators and remained neutral on the carbon reduction bill, despite support for them by Xcel and Minnesota Power.
Repeal salary cap	Eliminate salary cap placed on local governments.	Achieved in Chapter 60 of 2023 Regular Session Laws and effective 05/25/2023.
Allowing more nuclear generation	Allow the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission to consider siting new nuclear power generators.	The Senate supported funding to explore advanced nuclear technology for Minnesota, while the House remained opposed.
Solar for Schools	Municipal utilities seek additional clarification on regulations surrounding schools installing solar panels.	Schools must report how much electricity their panels produce each year and the impact on their annual electricity expenses.
State matching funds	Appropriate state dollars to serve as matching funds required to receive federal grants under the Infrastructure Improvement and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).	Secured \$244M in matching funds for federally-supported infrastructure projects.
Load management device replacements	Remove the requirement that an inspection occurs each time a load management device is replaced.	Inspection and fee requirement removed through 2028.