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News Memo

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AUB WATER DEEMED “BEST TASTING WATER” BY STATE ASSOCIATION

DAYTON, Tenn. – The Tennessee Association of Utility Districts (TAUD) has named the water produced by Athens Utilities Board the “Best Tasting Water” among TAUD Region Ten utilities.

TAUD Region Ten includes: Bledsoe, Bradley, Grundy, Hamilton, Marion, McMinn, Meigs, Monroe, Polk, Rhea, Roane, Sequatchie, and Van Buren counties.

Six utilities from Region Ten submitted samples of their drinking water for competition including AUB, the town of Spring City, Ocoee Utility District, Hixson Utility District, the city of Dayton, and Watts Bar Utility District.

“This is not just a source of pride for AUB. We believe it is a point of community pride,” said AUB spokesman Wayne Scarbrough.

AUB Water Superintendent Jill Davis credits the work of the water division employees in the community utility’s win.

“The people who run our filter plant are top notch professionals who take a personal interest in the quality of the water they produce. We are all proud of them and hope the community knows what an asset they are to Athens,” Davis said.

Judges for the competition included David Collett with USDA Rural Development, Barry Burgess with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, and Beth Jones with the Southeast Development District. The drinking water samples were judged on their clarity, bouquet, and taste.

In June, TAUD will conduct the “Best Tasting Water in Tennessee” comparing water from each of the regional winners, including AUB.

The statewide winner will then compete in Washington, D.C., for the Best Tasting Water in America.

TAUD is the oldest rural water association in the nation. TAUD serves as a source of training and technical assistance and acts as a legislative liaison to more than 420 water, wastewater, and natural gas utility members within the state.

