

# BOARD CHAIR AND CEO MESSAGE



**President and CEO**  
**L. Javier Fernandez**



**Board Chair**  
**Eric H. Williams**

Every year at OPPD, we look for new and innovative ways to serve our community and deliver reliable, affordable, environmentally sensitive power, and 2023 was no different.

As our service territory flourishes with new homes, schools and businesses, we worked proactively to meet our customers' immediate and long-term needs. Reliability is paramount, as always, and a well-diversified energy portfolio helps us achieve that goal.

Last year, OPPD's board approved a major expansion of new generation, including 1,000 to 1,500 megawatts of renewable energy, to meet unprecedented new demand for electricity expected over the next decade. The plan includes a diverse mix of generation, including battery storage, thermal power, demand response and upgrades to our current facilities.

We made great progress in the development of our Standing Bear Lake Station and Turtle Creek Station, which are expected to go online in 2024 with a total of 600 megawatts of natural gas generation.

Another project, Platteview Solar in Saunders County, will provide an additional 81 megawatts of renewable energy starting in 2024. We acquired the rights to an existing solar project, K-Junction Solar in York County, and are currently exploring the possible development of a 310-megawatt, 3,000-acre solar array.

In Douglas County, we're studying a potential landfill solar project – the first of its kind in Nebraska – that could give a new, productive life to a shuttered landfill.

We also volunteered in our communities, urban and rural: cleaning neighborhoods, packing food at local pantries, even raising money to help customers who struggle to pay their utility bills. With career fairs and events geared toward local high school students, we highlighted the many rewarding, good-paying jobs available at utilities and encouraged young people to consider STEM and trade careers.

Many of our hardworking line technicians went beyond their normal duties to help other communities in need. In August, crews traveled to Florida for nine days to restore power to residents in the wake of Hurricane Idalia. Those mutual aid relationships benefit us, as well. When major storms roll through our service territory, we know we can count on our partner utilities to assist us in restoring power as quickly as possible.

We also laid more groundwork for a sustainable, innovative future with new progress on our Powering the Future to 2050 strategic vision. Powering the Future to 2050 makes prioritizing and decision-making easier, ensuring that we're doing the right work at the right time.

We are now moving ahead with a new step, Charging Forward. Charging Forward is about taking that vision and plan and acting on it. We are making decisions, creating timelines, executing with project teams.

Looking back at the year is a good way to remind ourselves of everything we achieved, but our vision for the future is just as clear. Many exciting changes are coming, and our commitment to serve all customers in our territory – urban and rural – is stronger than ever. As your neighbors, your friends, your family, everyone at OPPD continues to charge forward to a brighter future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Fernandez'.

L. Javier Fernandez  
President and CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Williams'.

Eric H. Williams  
Chair of the Board