



OPPD employees and contractors work to service a turbine and generator at Nebraska City Station during a planned outage on Thursday, April 27, 2023.

# OPPD generation plan wins approval

A plan to add more electrical generation to meet surging customer demand has won approval from OPPD's Board of Directors.

OPPD unveiled the proposal in May amid projections that the utility will add an unprecedented 100 megawatts annually over the next several years. The growth rate is akin to building 65 new metro-area high schools or mid-size hospitals in one year. Just a few years ago, OPPD was adding generation at a much more modest 4 megawatts per year.

The growth arises from the development of new homes, schools, businesses and larger industrial customers that need a lot more electricity to operate. As a publicly owned utility, OPPD is legally required to serve all customers that locate within its service territory.

OPPD must also comply with the increased reserve margin requirements of the Southwest Power Pool (SPP), a regional transmission organization that helps ensure reliable power for almost 19 million people throughout the

central and western United States.

The Southwest Power Pool now requires its member utilities to maintain enough capacity to meet its net peak demand for electricity, plus an extra margin of 15%. That's up from 12% previously, as utilities nationally work to enhance their reliability amid the prospect of extreme weather.

The utility's plan is a proactive effort to ensure reliable, affordable and environmentally sensitive electricity to all customers.

## Omaha STEM event explores how students can thrive

The Omaha STEM Ecosystem is hosting an event that will explore how Nebraska's leaders and students can continue to thrive as technology changes the way we work.

Jaime Casap, a former Google Chief Educational Evangelist, will speak at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium on Wednesday, Nov. 8, from 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Casap is a public speaker who launched Chromebooks, a tool for K-12 and higher education. His events focus on ways that education can disrupt cycles of poverty,

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### OCTOBER BOARD MEETINGS

**All-committee meeting:** Tuesday, Oct. 17 (see [oppd.com/BoardMeeting](http://oppd.com/BoardMeeting) for details). **Regular board meeting:** Thursday, Oct. 19, 5 p.m. (see [oppd.com/BoardMeeting](http://oppd.com/BoardMeeting) for details). Hearing-impaired call 531-226-3208, 72 hours prior to request an interpreter. Agendas posted and meetings viewable on [oppd.com/BoardMeeting](http://oppd.com/BoardMeeting).

# Outlets

#### OUR MISSION

Provide affordable, reliable and environmentally sensitive energy services to our customers.

Your Energy Partner<sup>®</sup>  
**OPPD**  
Omaha Public Power District

## Omaha STEM (From front)

how to inspire students to become problem-solvers, and how existing technology can be used to create an innovative classroom.

The Omaha STEM Ecosystem works to connect education and business development to fuel tomorrow's workforce.

Visit this website to register: [eventbrite.com/e/hope-and-innovation-tickets](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/hope-and-innovation-tickets)

# Save Money, Save Energy

**Looking to save a few dollars? OPPD's Save Money, Save Energy Program can help:**

### Smart Thermostat

Switching to a smart thermostat is a smart move, filled with benefits and savings. When you enroll your smart thermostat with OPPD, you'll receive a \$75 one-time bill credit, plus an additional \$20 every year you participate.



### HVAC Smart Rebates

You can claim hundreds of dollars in rebates when you buy a new, high-efficiency air conditioner or

heat pump. The rebate amount depends on a unit's Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER) rating: the higher the rating, the larger the rebate, up to \$700. Rebates are also available for multi-family units.

### Cool Smart Program

Cool Smart is an easy way to reduce your electricity bill. OPPD attaches a free, small device to your home's exterior. The device runs your air conditioner or heat pump in 15-minute intervals during peak energy use times. Participants receive a one-time \$30 bill credit, plus an additional \$20 annual credit every September.

### HVAC Tune-Up Rebates

Routine, preventative HVAC maintenance can help identify issues before they cause equipment failures. Tune-ups also ensure your system is running efficiently,



saving as much as 10% annually on energy costs. OPPD will also issue you a \$25 rebate for routine maintenance when you schedule service through a certified HVAC contractor.

### Certified High Performance Home Rebates

An energy-efficient, new-construction home allows you to reduce your carbon footprint, maximize energy savings and qualify for up to \$250 in OPPD rebates.

For details on every program, visit [oppd.com/save](https://www.oppd.com/save).

# OPPD acquires rights for potential solar project



OPPD is potentially looking to add more affordable, reliable and environmentally sensitive generation assets for a rapidly growing

community with a proposed solar array in York County.

The utility has acquired the rights to an existing solar project, K-Junction Solar, and will continue to pursue the possible development of a 310-megawatt (MW), roughly 3,000-acre solar project west of McCool Junction in York County. If developed, the project would provide enough power for 60,000 homes.

OPPD signed an agreement with the project's now former owner, EDF

Renewables, on July 18. The acquisition allows OPPD to continue and now lead the ongoing technical evaluation and other activities required for the project. If OPPD determines that the project meets its mission and needs, the utility would finalize steps to fully develop the project.

The utility plans to maintain an active presence in the York County area to continue discussing the project with residents and continue the ongoing technical studies to determine the best way to move the project forward.

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