

Board Chair and CEO Message



President and CEO Timothy J. Burke (left)
and Board Chair Michael J. Cavanaugh

At Omaha Public Power District, we pride ourselves in providing affordable, reliable and environmentally sensitive energy services to our customers. But something else we do, and do as well as any electric utility in the nation, is powering partnerships.

Each day, we partner with customer-owners, business owners, homeowners, community leaders, special interest groups and other stakeholders, even other utilities, to carry out our mission.

Such partnerships have led us to pledge the unprecedented move of having no general rate increase through 2021.

Those partnerships take place within OPPD, as well. Inside our utility, various areas have been collaborating to safely and economically decommission Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station. That work has gone smoothly and will continue in the coming years. At Nebraska City Station, our engineers and plant operators have teamed up to make our largest generating station more efficient than ever to keep customers' rates low. And at North Omaha Station, three units have been retrofitted to run on natural gas to serve as "peaking stations," called upon at times of peak demand for energy.

With the energy landscape changing, we continue down the path of adding more renewables to our generation portfolio. In 2017, renewables represented about 30 percent of our retail sales. The recently announced Sholes Wind Energy Center in Wayne County, Neb., will put us closer to our goal of at least 50 percent of retail sales coming from renewables. This year, we will develop plans around a community solar project with input from our stakeholders, another example of our valuable partnerships.

We are proud of our public power heritage and the fact that we answer to our customer-owners, providing them with cost-effective and reliable energy. When that reliability is put to the test, employees respond. In June, our team showcased extreme dedication and commitment in response to one of our most destructive storms ever. Within two days, OPPD had restored service to 90 percent of the 76,500 customers who lost power.

That same spirit of teamwork is evident on the economic development front. Our Economic Development team partners with organizations and businesses across the state and country to bolster our region's economy. This past year, more than \$1 billion in capital investment projects for OPPD's service territory were announced. The biggest was a new data center for Facebook, located just outside the Omaha metro area. A big part of their decision was because of the development of our innovative new rate – 261M – for large customers seeking more renewable energy. The momentum continues for the coming years, with new projects in development.

As this report shows, OPPD remains in a strong financial position.

We will keep powering partnerships just as we will continue leading the way we power the future.

Handwritten signature of Timothy J. Burke in black ink.

Timothy J. Burke
President and CEO

Handwritten signature of Michael J. Cavanaugh in black ink.

Michael J. Cavanaugh
Chair of the Board