

Strong flood response

Following its Business Continuity Plan, OPPD worked hard to protect public and employee safety, maintain reliability and protect district infrastructure from floodwaters.

In advance of potential impacts to OPPD facilities and equipment due to predicted flooding, OPPD activated its Business Continuity Plan on March 13.

That triggered the set-up of an OPPD 24/7 incident command center, which coordinated company-wide efforts to monitor conditions, take proactive steps to protect infrastructure and continue to safely provide reliable power to customers.

In areas under evacuation orders, OPPD disconnected power to about 1,500 customers – for safety purposes and at the request of emergency management officials.

Reconnecting safely

At press time, employees were continuing to work with customers to help them through the reconnection process – with genuine empathy and an overriding focus on safety. Several employees were personally impacted by the flood.

Throughout its flood-mitigation efforts, OPPD stayed in contact with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – which controls water releases from Gavins Point Dam, on the Missouri River near Yankton, S.D.

At OPPD's Nebraska City Station generating plant, where the river crest eventually broke previous records, employees built berms on and

near the levee. They also piled sandbags and erected long lines of Hesco barriers – four-foot-tall, sand-filled wire baskets – to successfully protect plant equipment and infrastructure.

At Fort Calhoun Station – OPPD's nuclear plant that is safely shut down for decommissioning – Operations personnel implemented special operating procedures for flood conditions in advance of onsite flooding.

Again, employees used berms, Hesco barriers and sandbags to effectively protect critical facilities and equipment.

Employees also closely monitored several OPPD substations threatened by floodwaters and, in some cases, took similar step to protect this equipment and maintain reliability.

Answering the call

Employees' passion to serve OPPD customers was evident during the utility's flood response. For example, a five-person line crew found itself stranded in Fremont at one point.

These workers continued to answer trouble calls that would otherwise have been unreachable due to flooded roads.

At right, this line crew continued to work on restoring service to customers while stranded in Fremont for three days due to floodwaters.



See back for details.

OPPD COMMUNITY
SOLAR PROGRAM

MAY BOARD MEETINGS (time updated 4/29)

Committee: Tuesday, May 14, 9 a.m., Energy Plaza, 444 S. 16th St., Omaha. **Regular board meeting:** Thursday, May 16, 4 p.m., same location. Hearing-impaired may call 402-636-3208, 72 hours prior to request an interpreter. Meetings are livestreamed online at oppd.com.

Outlets

OUR MISSION

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





Enroll now for your place in the sun

If you are interested in clean, renewable energy without the expense of installing solar collectors on your roof, the OPPD Community Solar program is for you. OPPD is making it easy for you to support the generation and use of clean, locally generated solar energy.

Our solar farm is being built east of the town of Fort Calhoun, Neb., and is expected to come online this summer. The Fort Calhoun Solar Farm will produce up to 5 megawatts (MW) of solar energy, and the generation will be divided into shares portioned out to participating OPPD customers.

How it works

You can subscribe to one or more shares for a monthly solar charge of \$0.79 per each share on your OPPD bill. Each share represents 100 kilowatt-hours of electricity. The monthly charge per share is subject to change each spring, based on the current market price of solar energy.

To help offset the cost of building the solar farm, there is a one-time \$100 refundable enrollment deposit, which will be added to your first bill after you subscribe to the program. If you participate for five consecutive years, OPPD will refund your deposit by applying it as a credit on your OPPD bill.

If you are interested in powering your home with clean, renewable energy, visit oppd.com/communitysolarprogram.

Why you should participate

Affordable solar energy

This program enables you to support the generation of 5 MW of clean, renewable energy produced at a central location, for a low monthly rate.

Get the first chance at potential financial savings

The community solar charge is based on the market rate of solar energy and the cost of building and maintaining the Fort Calhoun Solar Farm. If the cost of the solar farm is met and the solar energy market rate is below the standard energy rate, participants will see an energy credit on their bills.

As a participant, you will not see immediate savings, but enrolling in the program early secures your place for potential savings down the road.

Help your community grow its regional green economy

From 2010 to 2017, employment in the solar industry has grown by 168 percent nationwide. When you enroll in OPPD's Community Solar program, you can help stimulate this trend in eastern Nebraska and support the creation of local solar jobs.



Solar power is the most abundant energy resource available. In one hour, enough raw energy from the sun reaches the Earth to provide one year of electricity to the entire world.

OPPD joins Henry Doorly Zoo for City Nature Challenge

April 26-29, cities worldwide will compete to find, identify and photograph the most species of wild plants and animals in their city for the 2019 City Nature Challenge.

Taking part is easy:

- 1: Find wildlife
- 2: Take a picture
- 3: Upload your photo on the iNaturalist app

Saturday event at OPPD Arboretum

To make it even easier, OPPD is partnering with Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and others to provide a great environment for capturing your observations.

Join us Saturday, April 27, between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the OPPD Arboretum near 108th and Blondo streets in Omaha.

University of Nebraska Extension Office entomologists and master gardeners, along with OPPD Forestry personnel, will be on hand to help with observations.

You are invited to come and help Omaha achieve the title of World's Most Biodiverse City.

iNaturalist – one of the world's largest entities dedicated to exploring biodiversity – is

a collaboration between the California Academy of Sciences and the National Geographic Society.

During the second phase of the challenge – April 30 through May 5 – the iNaturalist team will help identify what was found and uploaded to their app.

They will announce the winning city on Monday, May 6.

