

# **Customer Trends Update**

Juli Comstock, Vice President Customer Service Board of Directors All Committees Meeting December 8, 2020



Continuing to monitor and adjust OPPD's solutions as our customers' needs are changing.





#### **Extension of Customer First Solutions**

- Maintain flexible bill payment options to help customers financially
- [New] Automatically waive collection & reconnect fees on first field visit in 2021.
- Empower customer service representatives to waive up to 3 late payment charges for a customer in a 12-month period
  - [New] Additional fees may be waived upon approval and customer request (e.g. late payments, return check fees, collection & reconnect fees, etc..)
- Suspend assessing additional deposits due to field collection visits
- SMB customers will continue to receive personalized collection efforts prior to disconnection
- Continue personalized field visits and outreach to ensure impacted customers are aware of their options (via Connecting with Customers effort)
- Disconnect moratorium last two weeks in December in addition to standard weather moratorium policies

#### **Energy Assistance**

- Partnerships with school districts to ensure they have information related to OPPD's **Utility Assistance Programs**
- Research opportunities to grow EAP donations to ensure funding availability



#### **Remote Learning**

Continuous improvement of Remote Learning process with school districts to ensure learning is not disrupted due to disconnection through the end of the '20-'21 school year

#### Promotional/Marketing Campaign

Targeted campaign (w/ emails and postcards) for past due accounts to apply for CARES Utility Assistance before the deadline of December 15<sup>th</sup>



# **Summary of Aged Debt**

|   | Residential      |                 |                  | Commercial & Industrial |                 |                  |
|---|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
|   | November<br>2020 | October<br>2020 | November<br>2019 | November<br>2020        | October<br>2020 | November<br>2019 |
| % of Accounts Current                                   | 91.8%            | 91.8%           | 89.7%            | 92.7%                   | 92.5%           | 92.2%            |
| % of Accounts in Arrears                                | 8.2%             | 8.2%            | 10.3%            | 7.3%                    | 7.5%            | 7.8%             |
| Total Aged Debt > 30 days (in millions)                 | \$6.2            | \$7.1           | \$5.2            | \$2.1                   | \$2.1           | \$3.3            |
| Total Aged Debt 91+ Days (in millions)                  | \$1.2            | \$1.1           | \$0.5            | \$0.2                   | \$0.2           | \$0.1            |
| Total Service Agreement Count > 30 Days (in thousands)  | 39.4             | 40.5            | 38.9             | 2.1                     | 2.2             | 2.2              |
| Total Service Agreement Count > 91+ Days (in thousands) | 8.3              | 6.6             | 4.2              | 0.5                     | 0.5             | 0.4              |

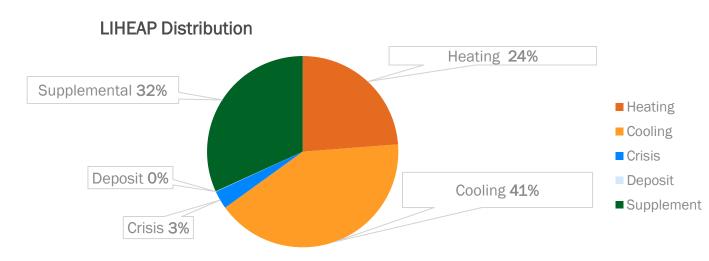
| LIHEAP Only Accounts                                    | Nov<br>2020 | October<br>2020 | Nov<br>2019 |
|---|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| % of Accounts Current                                   | 69%         | 67%*            | 80%         |
| % of Accounts in Arrears                                | 31%         | 33%*            | 20%         |
| Total Aged Debt > 30 days (in millions)                 | \$0.3       | \$0.3           | \$0.2       |
| Total Aged Debt 91+ Days (in millions)                  | \$0.2       | \$0.1           | \$.06       |
| Total Service Agreement Count > 30 Days (in thousands)  | 3.0         | 2.7             | 2.5         |
| Total Service Agreement Count > 91+ Days (in thousands) | 0.9         | 0.7             | 0.4         |

\* The statistics for the LIHEAP eligible customers have been impacted by LIHEAP eligibility program administration run by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).



### **Energy Assistance November 2020** Year To Date

| Funding Source            | November<br>2020 YTD | YOY YTD<br>Increase | Average<br>Benefit | Distinct<br>Accounts | # of<br>Payments | 2019<br>Year End<br>Total |
|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| Energy Assistance Program | \$347,032            | 33%                 | \$354              | 1,040                | 1,160            | \$252,715                 |
| LIHEAP                    | \$5,644,940          | 18%                 | \$350              | 8,212                | 16,151           | \$4,804,084               |
| CARES Act                 | \$1,042,906          | 100%                | \$367              | 2,394                | 2,746            | \$0                       |
| Other Agencies Assistance | \$1,172,035          | 31%                 | \$275              | 2,841                | 4,254            | \$898,911                 |
| Total                     | \$8,206,913          | 31%                 | \$334              | 13,100               | 24,311           | \$5,955,710               |



| CARES Act Update                    | 12/2/2020   |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Applications In Progress*           | 5,818       |
| Completed Applications <sup>^</sup> | 4251        |
| Average benefit                     | \$381       |
| Total Dollars Granted               | \$1,246,982 |

\*Customers that started their online application and are in the process of gathering documentation requirements ^Customers that submitted their application with all documentation which has been processed by Dollar Energy Fund



## **'Customer First Package' Financial Commitment**

| Solution                                     | Status               | Timeframe <sup>4</sup> | Instances / Customers | Covid Allocation | Pre-Covid Allocation | YTD Total   |
|--|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| LPC's not assessed <sup>1</sup>              | Expired              | 3/19 - 7/24            | 58,000                | \$2,400,000      | n/a                  | \$2,400,000 |
| Collection Fees not assessed <sup>2</sup>    | Expired              | 3/19 - 7/24            | 2,592                 | \$77,765         | n/a                  | \$77,765    |
| Reconnect Fees not assessed <sup>2</sup>     | Expired              | 3/19 - 7/24            | 2,784                 | \$208,775        | n/a                  | \$208,775   |
| Collection Fees waived                       | Active               | 3/1 – present          | 4,316                 | \$128,960        | \$1,170              | \$130,130   |
| Reconnect Fees waived                        | Active               | 7/14 - present         | 3,285                 | \$244,350        | \$600                | \$244,950   |
| LPC Fees waived                              | Active               | 3/1 - present          | 4,528                 | \$83,230         | \$28,770             | \$112,000   |
| Return Check Fees waived                     | Active               | 3/1 - present          | 263                   | \$8,040          | \$1,560              | \$9,600     |
| LULI Credits applied                         | Active               | 3/1 - present          | 10,399                | 205,530          | \$61,065             | \$266,595   |
| EAP Administration Fees paid                 | Active               | 1/1 - present          | n/a                   | \$57,067         | \$27,085             | \$84,152    |
| OPPD DIRECT COSTS SUBTO                      | DTAL                 |                        | 86,167                | \$3,413,717      | \$120,250            | \$3,533,967 |
| Refunded Deposits / Interest / Due<br>Amount | Expired <sup>3</sup> | 3/19 - 6/30            | 1,440                 | \$445,000        | unknown              | \$445,000   |
| ABP in Lieu of Deposit not assessed          | Expired              | 3/19 - 6/30            | 635                   | \$127,000        | n/a                  | \$127,000   |
| Level Pay Credit applied                     | Expired <sup>3</sup> | 3/19 - 6/30            | 252                   | \$270,000        | unknown              | \$270,000   |
| Deposits not assessed                        | Active               | 7/14 - present         | 815                   | \$80,570         | n/a                  | \$80,570    |
| OTHER FINANCIAL RELIEF SUE                   | BTOTAL               |                        | 3,142                 | \$922,570        |                      | \$922,570   |
| TOTAL  |                      |                        | 89,309                | \$4,336,287      | \$120,250            | \$4,456,537 |

Allocation per Instance / Customer \$48.55

5

<sup>3</sup>Expired solutions may still be used as a tool for CCS to help customers. <sup>4</sup>Data reporting on active items are from inception to November month-end.

