

# Power with Purpose Update October Open Committee Meeting

October 19, 2021

## **Updates**

- Natural Gas Generation Project
- Solar Strategy
- Sarpy Southwest Transmission Project



## **Natural Gas Generation Project & Fuel Supply Update**

- On September 22, OPPD executed a contract with Zachry Group for the Engineer, Procure, and Construct (EPC) of our two new natural gas generation facilities and their associated substations
- Preliminary grading is underway at both Turtle Creek Station (TCS) and Standing Bear Lake Station (SBLS) and continues through 2021
- Metropolitan Utilities District's board authorized approval of ground lease and main extension agreement on October 6; approval to occur with finalized gas supply agreements
- Community engagement
  - Meet with City of Papillion for project update (TCS)
  - Attend annual Rambleridge Homeowners Association Meeting in November (SBL)

Project Schedule	Milestone (Past/Future)
TCS Earthwork Begins	August 2021   ✓
SBL Earthwork Begins	September 2021   ✓
EPC Contractor Award	September 22, 2021
SBL & TCS Construction Starts	Quarter 1, 2022
SBL Commercial Operation	May 1, 2023
TCS Commercial Operation	August 18, 2023

Information as of October 7, 2021



## **Standing Bear Lake Station Preliminary Grading**



As of October 6, 2021



## **Turtle Creek Station Preliminary Grading**



As of October 6, 2021



## **Solar Strategy**

- Where We've Been
- What We've Learned
- Where We're Going



### Where We've Been

- Issued first utility-scale solar sourcing in November 2019
  - Proposals received indicated a variety of projects across Nebraska in varying stages of development
- Executed Platteview Solar PPA in Spring 2021
  - This is the first utility-scale solar PPA for OPPD and the State of Nebraska!!
- Closed out first phase of sourcing in Summer 2021





### What We've Learned

- Compiled numerous lessons learned across the project team, focusing on:
  - Business strategy
  - Sourcing, negotiations, and contracting
  - Generator Interconnection (GI) process complexity
  - Community and Stakeholder
- Key challenges to first phase of solar sourcing:
  - Solar industry and supply chain experienced significant challenges in 2020 2021
  - State, federal, and FERC policy constraints
  - Evolving solar regulations for local planning and zoning jurisdictions
  - Generator interconnection process has a significant backlog, adding significant risk to projects

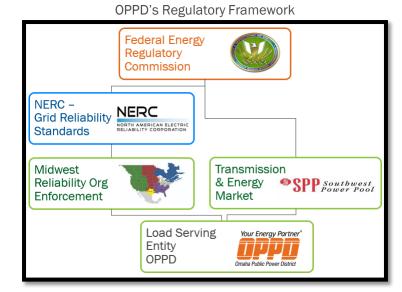


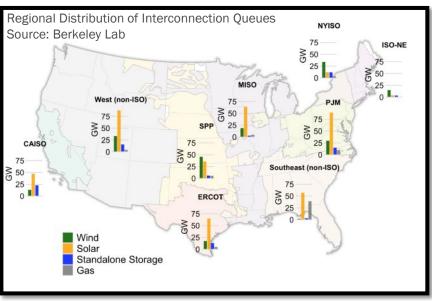
National Challenges with Generation Interconnection

to the Transmission System

 OPPD is an owner and operator of the Bulk Electric System, and has a regulatory obligation to comply with federal requirements

- OPPD is required to comply with federal interconnection processes for new generation
  - Processes ensure reliability and "Open Access" of the transmission grid
- Interconnection study backlogs have formed across the country, resulting from:
  - Increasing volume and magnitude of interconnection requests from developers of emerging technologies
  - Paradigm shift is a significant challenge for the current FERC policy landscape

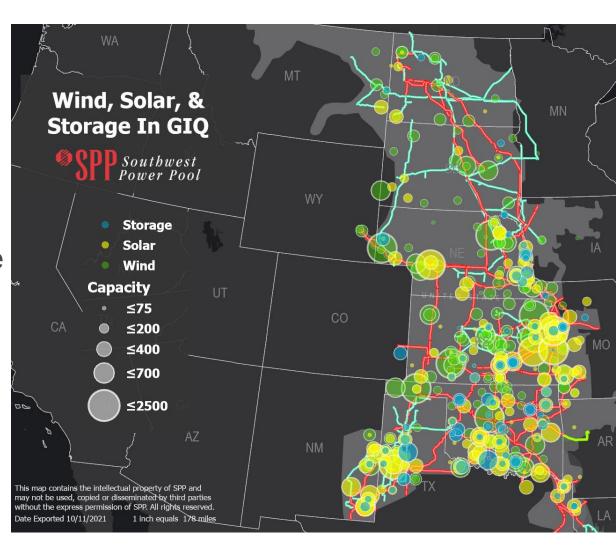






## Impacts of the GI Backlog

- FERC-regulated GI processes have multi-year backlogs of requests
  - Study results dictate transmission expansion costs for new generators
- Impact to PwP Solar
  - Proposals received in solar sourcing were impacted by the backlog with an unknown cost risk
  - Potential interconnection cost risk unclear until study process is completed (multi-year)
- OPPD is developing strategies to reduce these risks for solar projects







## Where We're Going



## Where We're Going

- Continue commitment to the November 2019 BOD resolution
  - Cease coal operations at North Omaha Station by end of 2023
  - Projects initiated to support fuel conversion of North Omaha Station by spring 2024
- Pursue a GI strategy that mitigates uncapped risks
  - OPPD is actively engaged with regulatory bodies (FERC, SPP) to understand best mitigation strategies to interconnect generation and serve load
- Incorporate evolving energy policy changes in remaining solar projects
  - Federal infrastructure proposal may benefit OPPD's solar projects
  - FERC's Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANOPR): Building for the Future Through Electric Regional Transmission Planning and Cost Allocation and Generator Interconnection





## **PwP Solar 2.0 Strategy**



## Next Steps: Q4 2021

- Adapt strategy and timeline in alignment with any policy changes (as needed or required)
  - Incorporate any impacts from federal, FERC, SPP, or local policy changes
- Continue solar education and advocacy
  - Meet with Community Leaders
  - Continue support of local planning and zoning efforts
- Project development strategy
  - Research options that mitigate Generator Interconnection risks
  - Conduct financial, technical, and legal due diligence, including execution risk assessments
  - Layout sourcing strategy for projects





# Sarpy Southwest Transmission Project Public Hearing



## **SSWTP - Public Hearing**

Objective - Allow directly impacted landowners to learn about next steps and ask questions about the project and the easement acquisition process.

- Agenda
  - Project Overview
  - Property Owner Rights
  - Construction
  - Comments, Q&A
- Attendance
  - 27 Attendees\*
  - 23 in-person, 4 virtual
- Q&A Themes
  - Negotiations, offers, appraisals
  - Alignment selection
  - Compensation methodology

#### What We've Done



January 26, 2021
Phase 1: Online Public Meeting

February 2021 – March 2021 Phase 2: Route Segment Analysis

March 30, 2021
Phase 2: Online Public Meeting

April 2021 – May 2021 Phase 3: Route Alternative Analysis

May 2021
Final Route Announcement

#### Where We're Going

May 2021 – January 2022
Engineering/Design/
Right-of-Way Activities

October 5, 2021 Public Hearing

October 2021 – October 2022
Procurement

November 2021 – March 2022 Easement Acquisition

May 2022 – June 2023 Construction

May 2023 – December 2023
Property Restoration and
Project Closeout

\*All dates are subject to change and may differ from previous version



<sup>\*</sup>Independent participants not including OPPD & HDR team members

## **Final Route Alignments**

