



Reporting Item

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

November 15, 2022

ITEM

Power with Purpose; Natural Gas Generation, Energy Delivery and Solar Updates

PURPOSE

Provide updates on Power with Purpose projects for November 2022.

TURTLE CREEK STATION & STANDING BEAR LAKE STATION FACTS

1. Engineering, procurement, and construction activities are in progress. Substation activities include grounding work, drilled piers, installation of concrete raceway, and substation component deliveries. At Standing Bear Lake Station, subcontractor vendor for the engine hall to commence activity in November as engine foundations complete. At Turtle Creek Station, focus continues on installation of underground piping and duct banks with major foundation pours upcoming.
2. The Turtle Creek Station is preparing to receive the first shipment of major equipment from Siemens Energy.

ENERGY DELIVERY FACTS

1. Foundation and structure erection are progressing well for the three (3) new transmission circuits associated with the Sarpy Southwest Transmission Project. All long lead material has now been received and only a few minor material items remain outstanding.
2. Commissioning work is now complete on the substation located near 144th Street and Capehart Road and the substation is now energized. Work continues at other substations supporting the interconnection of both generating facilities with below-grade construction progressing well.
3. Construction activities have begun in close coordination with the landowner and developer to ready the interconnect substation for the solar facility in Saunders County.

SOLAR FACTS

1. The 81-megawatt Platteview Solar facility in Saunders County continues to make progress. AES and OPPD are proceeding with facility design. Major equipment procurements are in progress to support the construction schedule. Construction is on track to begin at the site in the first quarter of 2023.
2. Staff continue to monitor, evaluate, and engage in federal policy activity related to solar deployment. The Department of Commerce is anticipated to make a preliminary ruling in the Auxin Solar petition on November 28th. Additionally, the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), signed into law in August 2022, has significant implications to how OPPD may deploy future energy projects, including Power with Purpose solar. OPPD staff continue to work with industry experts, including financial, tax, legal, and suppliers, to further evaluate these policies in order to understand how to optimize the pursuit of solar deployment for customer owners.
3. The solar supply chain continues to feel impacts from the pandemic, federal import policy, and an increasing national demand. As OPPD develops plans to deploy solar, staff continue to build new and maintain existing relationships with both project developers and equipment suppliers. These key relationships ensure OPPD has the best information for sourcing in the very competitive solar market.

4. OPPD staff continue to engage with local jurisdictions to support the development of solar regulations and provide education on solar technology. In September and October, staff engaged with local policymakers in a variety of settings, including the Cass County Economic Development Corporation's Fall Meeting, the Nebraska Wind & Solar Conference, and ongoing discussions with local planning and zoning entities.

RECOMMENDED:

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