



OPPD honors veterans with truck wrapped in stars and stripes

A newly decorated OPPD bucket truck is honoring veterans throughout the utility's service territory.

The Freightliner M2106 truck has been covered in red, white and blue, with bald eagles on the sides and hood and emblems recognizing every branch of the U.S. military.

The project is the culmination of three years of work by OPPD's Veterans Network, an employee group focused on veterans of America's armed forces. Many others within OPPD helped on the truck, which will respond to service calls with an Omaha-based line crew. It will also appear in parades and public events.

The truck is a standard model, "wrapped" in a special, heat-shrunk vinyl covering.

OPPD has pushed for years to empower those who served. The utility participates in veteran-focused job fairs and has partnered with Troops to Energy Jobs, a group that connects service members with jobs in the energy industry.

Some OPPD employees have also joined the utility through the SkillBridge program, a U.S. Department of Defense initiative to help departing service members gain civilian work experience. The utility is also a corporate sponsor of a group that works to prevent veteran suicides.

JANUARY BOARD MEETINGS

All-committee meeting: Tuesday, Jan. 17 (see oppd.com/BoardMeeting for details). **Regular board meeting:** Thursday, Jan. 19, 5 p.m. (see oppd.com/BoardMeeting for details). Hearing-impaired call 531-226-3208, 72 hours prior to request an interpreter. Agendas posted and meetings viewable on oppd.com/BoardMeeting.

Outlets

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Rate Adjustment proposed for 2023

Responding to fuel and purchased power price increases, OPPD is proposing a line-item increase on customer bills that would help cover the utility's costs but remain far below the national inflation rate.

The proposal would raise customers' total bills by an average of 2.9% starting in 2023, although the exact amount would vary based on energy usage.

By contrast, the energy sector has seen year-over-year inflation of 17.6% as of October, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Despite an average inflation rate in the United States that currently stands at 8%, the utility is not proposing any changes to the general rate in 2023, which OPPD

officials attributed to careful fiscal management.

The line item, noted as the Fuel and Purchased Power Adjustment fee, appears on all customer bills. It's updated annually, but hasn't changed in the last five years. The fee is commonly used in the industry to help manage costs outside of a utility's control, such as fluctuating coal and natural gas prices, and power purchased on the energy market.

Utilities nationwide have seen the costs of fuel (particularly natural gas) and purchased power rise. Cost increases are expected to continue into 2023, prompting the line item increase.

Because the line item is calculated based on energy consumption,

customers can control the impact of the increase by using less electricity or taking steps to increase their energy efficiency. OPPD has strategies and tools to help, including how-to videos, at oppd.com/ee. The utility also offers a variety of assistance programs for customers struggling to pay their bill.

The proposal is part of OPPD's Corporate Operating Plan for 2023, which requires approval by the utility's board of directors. OPPD leaders will present the plan to the board at its November meeting, and the board will accept public comments through Dec. 11.

The utility is not proposing any changes to the general rate in 2023.

Giving the gift of energy

You can help make the holidays warm and bright for others by donating to OPPD's Energy Assistance Program (EAP) or giving the Gift of Energy by paying any amount toward another person's OPPD account. Or do both!

Donations to either program help families in need during the holidays and throughout the year. But there's no better time than during the holidays to help families who worry about keeping the power on to warm and light their homes.

The EAP has helped a variety of people over the years, including those who have suffered accidents, lost their jobs and faced other misfortunes in life.

The Gift of Energy is also great for hard-to-buy-for friends and

relatives. Gifts can be in any amount you choose and will be applied to the designated account within two weeks of OPPD receiving the application.

Information about both programs is available at oppd.com/give, or scan this QR code with your phone's camera.



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POWER
ON
WITH OPPD EAP**

7"x 2.5" AD SPACE AVAILABLE IN 2022 Proceeds benefit EAP. For details, please email lskinghoman@oppd.com.

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