Omaha Public Power District is a publicly owned electric utility that serves an estimated population of 878,000 people, more than any other electric utility in the state. Operating since 1946, the public utility is governed by an elected board of eight directors. While its headquarters is located in Omaha, Nebraska, OPPD has several other locations in its 13-county, 5,000-square-mile service area in southeast Nebraska.

OPPD uses baseload power facilities fueled by coal and natural gas, balancing stations fueled by natural gas and oil, and renewable energy, including wind, solar, landfill gas and hydro power.

WIND ENERGY CENTERS
1. Ainsworth
   10-megawatt participation agreement
2. Broken Bow I
   18-megawatt participation agreement
3. Petersburg
   40.5-megawatt participation agreement
4. Elkhorn Ridge
   25-megawatt participation agreement
5. Crofton Bluffs
   13.6-megawatt participation agreement
6. Prairie Breeze
   200.6-megawatt participation agreement
7. Flat Water
   60-megawatt participation agreement
8. Grande Prairie
   400-megawatt participation agreement
9. Sholes
   160-megawatt participation agreement

SOLAR
10. Fort Calhoun Community Solar Facility
    5 megawatts
11. Platteview Solar Facility
    81-megawatts (operational in 2024)

LANDFILL GAS
12. Elk City Station
    6 megawatts

HYDRO
From Western Area Power Administration
81.3 megawatts

ABOUT OPPD
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OPPD uses baseload power facilities fueled by coal and natural gas, balancing stations fueled by natural gas and oil, and renewable energy, including wind, solar, landfill gas and hydro power.
OPPD has replaced more than 90,000 streetlights with LED lights across the service territory over the past four years.

ON THE COVER: Line Technician Ted Gyhra prepares to descend a pole after the journeyman hurtman rescue event at a lineworkers rodeo competition.
In 2021, Omaha Public Power District celebrated our 75th anniversary. It was a time for our organization to look back and honor the hard work and sacrifice of those who made OPPD what it is today. What stands out about 2022 is how we have been laying the groundwork and progressing down the path toward Powering the Future to 2050.

That strategic vision is shaping our work at OPPD, and it will for decades to come. We must proceed on this journey thoughtfully and boldly. OPPD has been an industry leader for decades, and while the work is changing, that strategic vision of Powering the Future has not.

We have developed three internal and three external areas of focus that will help us illuminate the future. The areas that are customer-focused – Perfect Power, Cleaner World and Customer Freedom – will allow us to serve customers in new and exciting ways. In each of those areas work has already begun, including enhancing our Geographic Information System to help manage our assets and updating our Outage Management System.

Within OPPD’s workforce, we have enhanced our technology road map and are working to cultivate leadership at every level. We know that fostering an environment of continual learning leads to better solutions for our customer-owners.

We are progressing on all of these fronts while experiencing unprecedented growth in our service territory.

Our employees have showcased ingenuity and dedication to serving our customers through a number of projects. Various departments collaborated to find a solution to a forced outage at our Nebraska City Station, avoiding a multi-month unplanned outage. And our splicers rotated teams over 72 consecutive hours to resolve an outage for one of our large customers.

The nuclear decommissioning work at our Fort Calhoun Station continues to go as planned. A significant focus over the past year was the removal of the internal components from the reactor vessel. We remain on track to return the site to greenfield status around 2026.

While we can look back on our accomplishments for our customer-owners with pride, our vision and focus are clear, and we will continue leading the way in powering the future, just as we have done for decades.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Natural Resources Planner

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Mary G. Spurgeon
Treasurer
Educator (retired)

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Sheriff’s office

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Assistant Secretary

Kate W. Brown
Vice President &
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Assistant Secretary

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Vice President –
Systems Transformation
Assistant Secretary

Troy R. Via
Vice President &
Chief Operating Officer
Assistant Secretary
OPERATIONS REVIEW

At OPPD, we are working every day to illuminate the future, one that is powered with cleaner energy sources, using resources that are more sustainable and more innovative. This work is how we will meet the promise to our customer-owners that we will continue to power the future, just as we have for more than 75 years.

Our journey to 2050 is already underway. OPPD leaders have identified six areas of focus that will form a road map of our vision for the utility.

OPPD is committed to being a utility that will serve customers for decades to come, in all the ways they may need. The industry is changing rapidly, and we will continue to engage with our customers in new and innovative ways – providing them with the services they’ve come to rely on today as well as the ones they will need in the years ahead.

Before OPPD Line Crew Leader Bruce Hamel retired, a few of his friends took part in a photo with him as part of his sendoff and as a visual reminder of his life on the lines. The group climbed a de-energized three-pole training structure at OPPD’s Elkhorn Service Center.
Perfect Power

What is Perfect Power? It does not mean there will never be outages. Instead, it means we’re looking at ways to modernize and harden our system to provide a reliable, resilient and secure energy ecosystem that enables interactive services and intelligent solutions.

The steps we will take include:

- Implementing Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI), a two-way communication path between OPPD and our customer that will alert us when a customer’s power is out.

- Pursuing a self-healing grid that uses sensors, controls and communication devices to anticipate or detect problems, relay messages and respond quickly. This will help our system to avoid outages, or at least contain them.

Today, OPPD is updating the Geographic Information System (GIS) to help the utility manage its assets more efficiently and prepare for AMI. Updates to our Outage Management System (OMS) are also underway. This system helps better manage customer outages and deploy crews in a more efficient manner to increase the speed of restoring power.

Chris Golden, left, and Tanner Lech are shown doing some maintenance work at North Omaha Station.

Josh Lemay, a first class machinist at OPPD, is shown checking the fit of turbine blades in front of the exhaust section at Cass County Station’s unit 2. Cass County is one of OPPD’s balancing stations, also known as peaking stations.
Customer Freedom

Customer Freedom is unobstructed access to solutions as dynamic and as personal as the customers OPPD serves. It is about empowering the customer to package their specific energy needs in a way that is unique to them.

From a dedicated customer team working with customers to build their energy package, to proactive notifications letting customers know how they are using their energy, OPPD is working to better engage with our customers.

We are also looking at new ways customers can manage their energy use with the help of AMI meters, and we are providing services to help customers customize their energy sources based on their values and preferences.

The Customer Freedom journey is already underway. OPPD is working on its Contact Center Modernization project, updating the communication tools in the Contact Center and making it easier for OPPD to engage with our customers. We are also working in all areas across the utility to develop and refine the tools and processes involved in how we collect, store, analyze and use data. Being more data-driven will help OPPD make the best decisions for the utility and its customers.

Nate Thies, OPPD meter technician, installs new meters on residential utility poles that also house 5G cellular towers.
Automation Technicians Jon Willey, left, and Chad Boyce check a recloser on a pole.

Customer Care Representative Kim Melton fields customer calls in the Contact Center at Energy Plaza.
Cleaner World

OPPD is committed to providing environmentally sensitive energy, and that commitment is a key factor in the decisions the utility makes. Given the rapidly changing energy industry and OPPD’s commitment to achieving net-zero carbon by 2050, the utility is working to expedite the pace of electric vehicle (EV) penetration, and to continue helping our customers meet their environmental goals.

OPPD is working to make its buildings LEED-certified (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) and environmentally sustainable. LEED certification involves making decisions and using materials that enhance human health, reduce carbon emissions, and promote the use of sustainable materials, among other things. And OPPD is partnering with Douglas County to make a former landfill the first site of its kind in the state to house a solar array.

Five new EV charging stations were added around OPPD’s service territory, including this DC fast (Level 3) charger in La Vista, Nebraska.

OPPD’s community solar array near Fort Calhoun, Nebraska, provides 5 megawatts of renewable generation.
OPPD Account Executive Laura Strode and Eric BenSalah, OPPD’s energy consultant, are shown at an educational booth on electric vehicles and how to charge them at the International Auto Show at the CHI Health Center Arena in Omaha.

Nine reciprocating internal combustion engines were shipped to OPPD’s Standing Bear Lake Station from Italy as part of the utility’s Power with Purpose project.
Within OPPD – Internally, OPPD has identified three areas of focus – Digitally Driven, Purpose-Driven Culture and Future-Ready Posture – that involve our operations and workforce.

- Digitally Driven is a secure, resilient and digitized experience for customers, employees and partners. It means OPPD will strive to be a nimble organization that can respond quickly to market conditions. Our technology road map is in place to align technology to business needs and to make sure technological changes are not disruptive to the utility or customers.

- Purpose-Driven Culture refers to fostering an engaged, empowered workforce. Having a robust and active learning environment plays a role in retaining the best people. At OPPD, we are working to cultivate leadership at all levels.

- Future-Ready Posture is OPPD’s declaration to adapt, forge new norms and pioneer the future. Our employees will create grand solutions solving for today’s problems as well as tomorrow’s. This nimble and resilient posture is the engine that enables OPPD to become a high-performing technology company that delivers energy services.

OPPD volunteers worked with Habitat for Humanity of Omaha’s Rock the Block event in Blair, Nebraska.
OPPD’s Veterans Network, one of its employee resource groups, worked to have an OPPD bucket truck specially designed and wrapped to honor the veterans in the utility and the OPPD service territory. The truck is used by an Omaha-based line crew and represents OPPD in area parades.

A helicopter was utilized to help put up new transmission lines as part of the Sarpy Southwest Transmission Project.