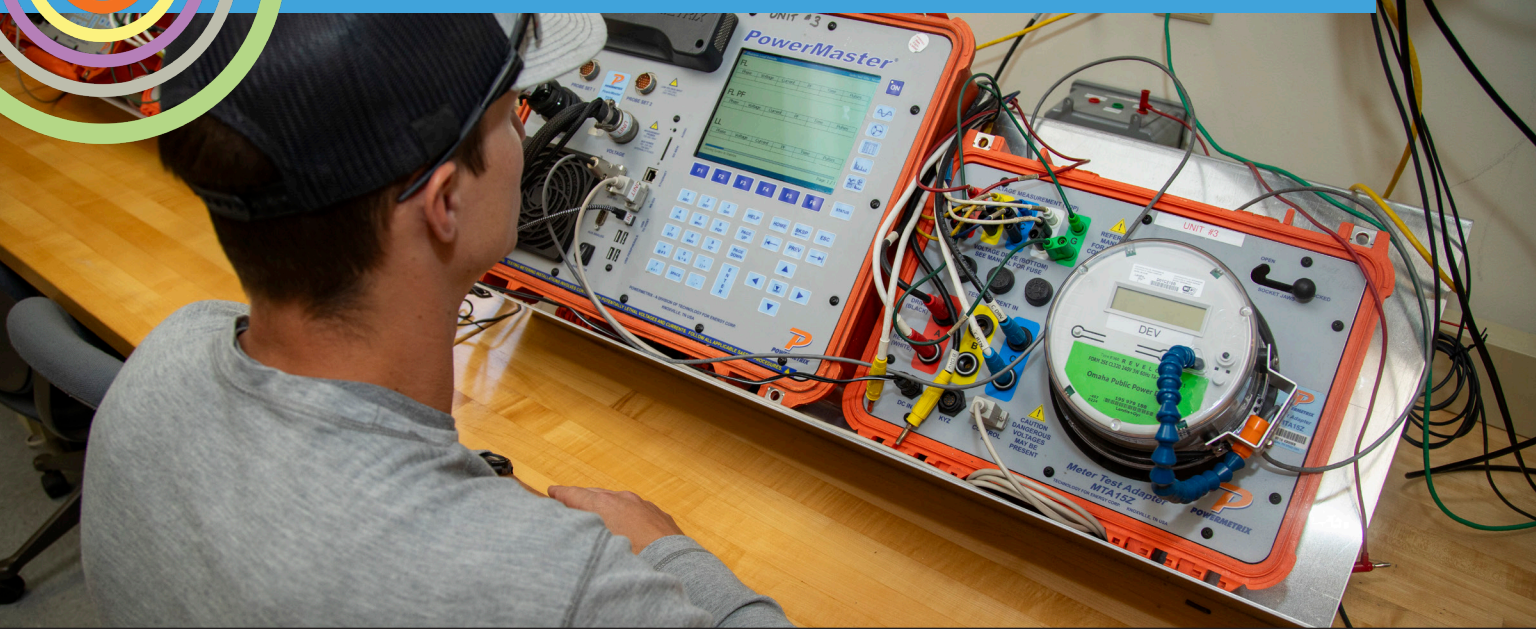


THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT OPPD'S NEW SMART METERS



New smart meter technology is on the way for OPPD customers, and you may have some questions.

Here are some things to know:

The new meters will provide faster and more precise outage information and a modern ecosystem that will allow two-way communication between OPPD and individual customer meters.

At present, OPPD relies heavily on customer reporting to confirm outages, and granular information about the affected area isn't always available. The new meters will offer a much more detailed picture.

By this time next year, OPPD expects to install about 10,000

customer meters in different areas (urban and rural) and with various customer types (residential, commercial, industrial).

The new meters use safe, tested technology, and OPPD is far from the first utility to adopt them. Millions of homes and businesses throughout the United States already use smart meters and have for years.

Smart meters draw their power directly from OPPD, and not customers, so the small amount of energy they use will not affect individual customer bills. Customers will still have full control of their energy usage.

The new meters communicate with OPPD via a private, encrypted network, sending only customer usage data. They have no connection to customer internet service.

The meters are also built for safety. OPPD chose new high-performance meters with excellent heat and surge resistance and accuracy.

OPPD will soon begin contacting the first customers selected for the soft launch, providing a 90-day advance notice before installation begins. While customers don't need to be present during the meter exchange, the process may cause a brief power interruption.

SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETINGS

All-committee meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 16 (see oppd.com/BoardMeeting for details). **Regular board meeting:** Thursday, Sept. 18, 5 p.m. (see oppd.com/BoardMeeting for details). Hearing-impaired call 531-226-3515, 72 hours prior to request an interpreter. Agendas posted and meetings viewable on oppd.com/BoardMeeting.

HELPING EASTERN NEBRASKA SHINE FOR VISITORS AND BIG EVENTS



What's the one thing college baseball fans, concertgoers, zoo lovers and many others need when they visit their favorite major events in Omaha?

Electricity! And for every large gathering, OPPD works quietly and proactively, sometimes months in advance, to ensure reliable power

for everyone.

Long before the big day arrives, OPPD dispatches crews to areas where crowds will gather. Troubleshooters patrol circuits, looking for potential weak spots and areas that need repairs. Street lighters ensure nearby lights are shining

bright. Equipment in high-traffic areas might get a scrub-down and a fresh coat of paint.

For some major events, OPPD keeps crews stationed near key equipment to make repairs at a moment's notice.

Planning for major events

Months before major events, OPPD specialists from multiple departments meet to formulate a plan.

The process usually begins with senior account managers, a specialized team that works one-on-one with OPPD's largest and often most critical customers.

As eastern Nebraska grows, there's no shortage of big events needing reliable electricity. Every event requires a tailored response.

A NEW TESTING TOOL FOR POWER PLANT TECHNICIANS

OPPD's newest testing tool for a group of specialized job seekers is an 18-ton concrete bunker buried in the ground.

In March, the utility installed a pre-cast manhole at its Nebraska City Station training site to ensure that aspiring steamfitter mechanics and instrumentation and control (I&C) technicians have what it takes to work at an OPPD generation plant.

For years, applicants for steamfitter mechanic positions and other technical roles would undergo a traditional job interview and written test. But OPPD managers learned over time that good interview skills and a nice resume don't always translate into real-world, hands-on

ability.

Now, job seekers in those fields will have to fix a simulated problem in the underground manhole while OPPD evaluators watch. The underground vault simulates the tight quarters where all craft workers operate.

The new skills test reflects a practice already in place in many other OPPD departments.

Aspiring line technicians who want to join OPPD must pass through a similar hands-on assessment where seasoned managers and employees gauge their skills, communication and ability

to work under pressure. Similar programs are in place for aspiring street light workers and other trades.



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