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Omaha Public Power District

OPPD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 15, 2026

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Omaha Public Power District ("OPPD" or "District") was held on October 15 at 5:00 p.m. at the Omaha Douglas Civic Center, 1819 Farnam Street, 2nd Floor Legislative Chamber, Omaha, Nebraska and via WebEx audio and video conference.

Joining in person were Directors M. J. Cavanaugh, M. R. Core, S. E. Howard, J. L. Hudson, C. C. Moody, M. G. Spurgeon and E. H. Williams. A. E. Bogner was absent. Also present were L. J. Fernandez, President and Chief Executive Officer, and P. M. Fischer, Vice President, General Counsel. E. H. Lane, Sr. Board Operations Specialist, and other members of the OPPD Board meeting logistics support staff. Chair M. R. Core presided, and E. H. Lane recorded the minutes. Other Executive Leadership Team members joining in person included K. W. Brown, C. V. Fleener, S. M. Focht, T. D. McAreavey, B. R. Underwood, T. R. Via, and J. W. Wheeler.

Board Agenda Item 1: Chair Opening Statement

Chair Core gave a brief opening statement, including reminders for using the WebEx audio and video conferencing platform.

Board Agenda Item 2: Safety Briefing

D. Peterchuck, Director, Enterprise Security, provided safety reminders.

Board Agenda Item 3: Guidelines for Participation

Chair Core then presented the guidelines for the conduct of the meeting and instructions on the public comment process using WebEx audio and video conferencing features.

Board Agenda Item 4: Roll Call

Ms. Lane took roll call of the Board. All members were present in person, except for A. E. Bogner.

Board Agenda Item 5: Announcement regarding public notice of meeting

Ms. Lane read the following:

> *"Notice of the time and place of this meeting was publicized by notifying the area news media; by publicizing same in the Omaha World Herald and Nebraska Press Association, OPPD Outlets newsletter, oppd.com and social media; by displaying such notice on the first level of the OPPD administrative offices; and by e-mailing such notice to each of the District's Directors on October 9, 2026.*

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A copy of the proposed agenda for this meeting has been maintained, on a current basis, and is readily available for public inspection in the office of the District's Corporate Secretary.

Additionally, a copy of the Open Meetings Act is available for inspection on oppd.com."

Board Consent Action Items:

6. Approval of the August 2026 Financial Report, September 2026 Meeting Minutes, and October 15, 2026 Agenda
7. Authorized Increase in Credit Facilities – Resolution No. 6780
8. 2026 COP Excess Expenditures Request – Resolution No. 6781
9. Rate Schedule No. 120 - Standard Residential Service - TOU Pilot – Resolution No. 6782
10. RFP 6252 - Cass County to Nebraska City Underground Fiber – Resolution No. 6783
11. Acquisition of Land Rights for Utility Operations Infrastructure Projects - Midtown Transmission Project – Resolution No. 6784
12. SD-13: Stakeholder Outreach and Engagement Monitoring Report – Resolution No. 6785

It was moved and seconded that the Board approve the consent action items.

Chair Core noted the Board discussed the action items during the All Committees meeting held on Tuesday, October 13.

Chair Core then asked for public comments in person and on WebEx. There were no comments.

Thereafter, the vote was recorded as follows: Bogner – absent; Cavanaugh – Yes; Core – Yes; Howard – Yes; Hudson – Yes; Moody – Yes; Spurgeon – Yes; Williams – Yes. The motion carried (7-0).

Board Discussion Action Item

13. SD-7: Environmental Stewardship Monitoring Report – Resolution No. 6786

Director Cavanaugh moved to approve the discussion action item, and it was seconded by Director Williams. Chair Core asked for Board member questions or comments. Director Spurgeon, Director Moody, and Director Williams provided comments.

Chair Core then asked for public comments in person. There was one.

David Begley, 4611 S. 96th St, provided comments on the SD-7 monitoring report and presented materials which are attached to these minutes.

Chair Core then asked for public comments on WebEx. There were two.

David Corbin, 1002 N. 49th St, representing the Nebraska Sierra Club, provided comments on pollution and the SD-7 monitoring report.

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John Pollack, 1412 N. 35th Street, provided comments on climate resiliency and the SD-7 monitoring report.

Chair Core asked for comments from the Board. There were no more comments.

Thereafter, the vote was recorded as follows: Bogner – Absent; Cavanaugh – Yes; Core – Yes; Howard – Yes; Hudson – Yes; Moody – Yes; Spurgeon – Yes; Williams – Yes. The motion carried (7-0).

14. Chief Growth Officer – Appointment and Compensation Approval – Resolution No. 6787

Director Spurgeon moved to approve the discussion action item, and it was seconded by Director Moody. Chair Core asked for Board member questions or comments. Director Spurgeon, Director Moody, Director Cavanaugh, Director Williams, Director Hudson, and CEO Fernandez provided comments in support of the resolution

Chair Core then asked for public comments in person. There was one comment.

David Begley, 4611 S. 96th St, provided comments on the Chief Growth Officer appointment.

Chair Core then asked for public comments on WebEx. There were no comments.

Chair Core asked for comments from the Board. There were no more comments.

Thereafter, the vote was recorded as follows: Bogner – Absent; Cavanaugh – Yes; Core – Yes; Howard – Yes; Hudson – Yes; Moody – Yes; Spurgeon – Yes; Williams – Yes. The motion carried (7-0).

Chair Core asked for comments from Danny Buelt. Mr. Buelt provided comments on his appointment as Chief Growth Officer.

Board Agenda Item 13: President's Report

CEO Fernandez next presented the following information:

- September 2026 Baseload Generation
- September 2026 Balancing Generation
- September 2026 Renewables
- Changing Grid - More Dynamic System
- Growing for Customers
- Rising Execution Costs
- Honor Our Community – Day of Caring
- Swigart Invitational Tournament
- Heat the Streets Run & Walk for Warmth – Registration Open
- In Memoriam – Michael Formanack

Board Agenda Item 14: Opportunity for comment on other items of District Business

Chair Core asked for comments from the public in the room. There was one comment.

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David Begley, 4611 S. 96th St, provided comments on solar and wind and presented materials which are attached to these minutes.

Chair Core asked for comments from the public online. There were two comments.

David Corbin, 1002 N. 49th St, representing the Nebraska Sierra Club, provided comments on states with wind and solar generation.

John Pollack, 1412 N. 35th Street, provided a weather report.

There were no additional comments from the public in person or online.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Signed by:
S. M. Focht
B626AD4392E3483...

S. M. Focht
Vice President, Corporate Strategy and Governance

DocuSigned by:
Erin Lane
965CE2363A0A42C...

E. H. Lane
Sr. Board Operations Specialist

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Integrated Systems Plan

1. If OPPD isn't modeling future PPA prices that take into account the federal income tax credit cliff, then your work is completely useless and very misleading. You should know that Level Ten Energy has already seen a 7% increase in one quarter for new wind and solar PPA prices. And the yearly increases are out-of-sight; 40% to 120%.

2. Your projections about the amount of wind and solar to be added to the grid in the future are wildly optimistic. Even OPPD has admitted that Nebraska counties are pushing back and resisting more unreliable wind and solar. Knox County, Nebraska has banned industrial wind and solar and more county bans are coming.

3. OPPD states that it gets 40% of its power from wind and solar. Left unsaid is the fact that this electricity is sold to OPPD by for-profit companies. George Norris would be really unhappy about this. OPPD has subcontracted much of its supply responsibility to the Power Trust. Hence, OPPD customer-owners pay more than we should.

4. When wind and solar are over 50% of the portfolio, the blackout risk goes way up. Did you model that? Did you put a percentage risk for a blackout in your model? I know that Isaac Orr, formerly with the Center for the American Experiment, modeled the blackout risk for MN, WI and other states and it is a very real problem.

5. There's a really good chance that a new Board majority will repeal SD-7. And there's a strong possibility that the Unicameral will pass a bill preventing OPPD and NPPD from having a Net Zero policy. Neither had the statutory authority to impose the costs and burdens of a Net Zero fantasy on customer-owners; especially now that PPA prices are going way up.

Prepared and submitted by OSPD customer-owner David D. Begley, 4611 South 96th Street, Omaha, NE

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Power grid emergency declared across 13 US states in urgent bid to prevent blackouts

- **MORE: Terrifying scientific study warns once-in-250-year 'Blackout Arc' event could now plunge 5 million Americans into total darkness: See map of states at risk**

By CHRIS MELORE, US DEPUTY SCIENCE EDITOR
PUBLISHED: 16:30 EDT, 13 October 2026 | **UPDATED:** 17:47 EDT, 13 October 2026

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A power grid emergency affecting more than 60 million Americans has been declared as the US government scrambles to prevent outages across several states.

The US Department of Energy (DOE) has issued a short-term emergency order under the Federal Power Act, allowing regional power grid operator PJM Interconnection to push past normal pollution limits to keep the lights on.

PJM manages electricity for residents in Delaware, **Illinois**, Indiana, **Kentucky**, **Maryland**, Michigan, **New Jersey**, **North Carolina**, Ohio, **Pennsylvania**, **Tennessee**, **Virginia**, **West Virginia** and **Washington DC**.

Daily Mail

Read More

The emergency order went into effect on Tuesday and is expected to last through Friday due to a sudden and unseasonably warm spike in temperatures.

Forecasters with AccuWeather have said temperatures in the Ohio Valley and Mid-Atlantic will jump into the 70s and 80s, **including in all 13 states PJM covers.** Officials feared that the sudden demand for power, as millions turn fans and air conditioners back on, might overtax PJM's grid, which had already shut down several power plants and **transmission lines for seasonal repairs.**

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Secretary of Energy Chris Wright said the move aimed at reducing the risk of widespread blackouts across the Mid-Atlantic during this week's heat blast.

Wright also blamed the Biden Administration for weakening the nation's electrical grid by restricting energy production using coal and natural gas in favor of intermittent sources like wind and solar, allegedly leaving the US more vulnerable to power outages.

+2

View gallery

The US Department of Energy has issued an emergency order to prevent blackouts from hitting up to 13 states this week (Stock Image)

Wright said in a statement: 'This order will help ensure millions of American families and businesses across the mid-Atlantic have access to affordable, reliable, and secure electricity by making additional power generation, including backup power, available to use as needed.'

The secretary also slammed the previous DOE leadership group for allegedly placing the country in a dire position that depends on less reliable forms of energy for electricity.

'While past leaders' energy subtraction policies have made the grid more vulnerable to the risk of blackouts when the sun doesn't shine or the wind doesn't blow, this administration remains committed to using every available tool to prevent blackouts,' **he added Monday**.

PJM is the nonprofit organization that runs the regional power grid in the Mid-Atlantic, **Ohio** Valley and Northeast, coordinating each state's local electric companies so electricity flows reliably.

On social media, PJM said the DOE order would 'not require any action from customers,' meaning Americans were not being asked to lower their electricity usage during the short-term emergency.

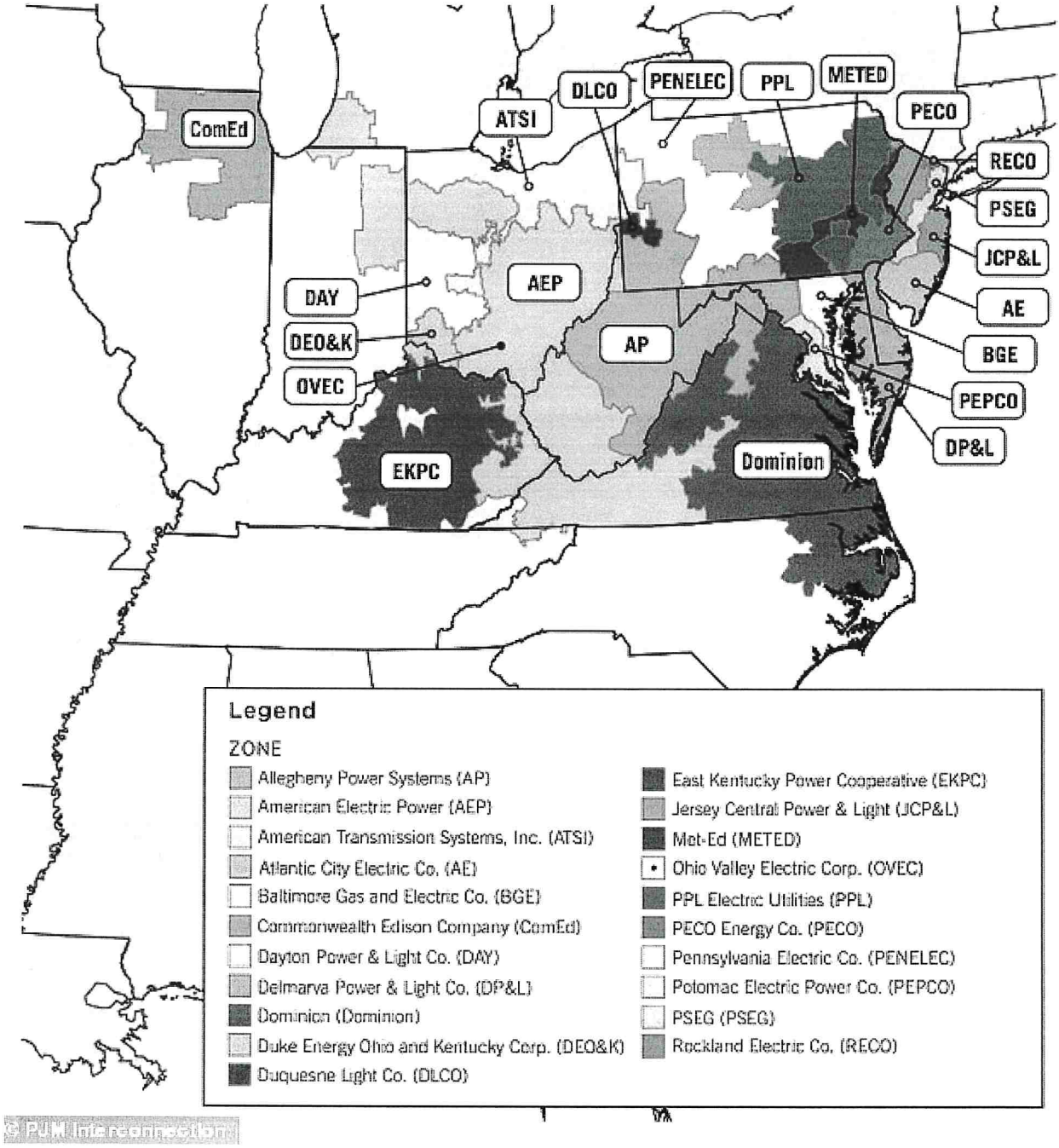
A spokesperson for PJM told Newsweek that the tight grid conditions were being caused by more people using electricity while many generators were being serviced before the winter.

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They added that major transmission projects had also required power lines to be taken down for safety reasons, leaving fewer systems available to handle this week's sudden demand.

The special order, declared under Section 202(c) of the Federal Power Act, lets power plants run past their yearly restrictions on producing air pollutants such as nitrogen oxides (NOx), carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur dioxide (SO2), particulate matter (PM) and ammonia.

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View gallery

PJM Interconnection has been ordered to exceed emissions limits in order to prevent power outages in the Mid-Atlantic states as temperatures rise and energy demands increases

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Whatever pollution is created during the emergency is not counted towards the power company's emissions limits for the year.

It also allows PJM to force specific power plants, mostly natural-gas plants and some oil- or coal-burning facilities, to reopen and run if the grid needs them, even if those plants are normally shut down by pollution rules.

Normally, the DOE order is issued as a measure of last resort to prevent rolling blackouts.

It is typically ordered to prevent the country from reaching an 'Energy Emergency Alert Level 3,' the highest and most serious level of emergency alert related to the nation's electrical grid.

That means a power grid operator has exhausted all other options and is at the point of needing to start controlled outages to keep the overall system from collapsing.

Since 2025, however, the Trump Administration has been using the emergency decree regularly to combat extreme summer heat waves and winter storms or cold snaps, where Americans will be using more energy than normal – straining the grid.

While the DOE only issued this same order about 20 times between 2000 and 2024, the Trump Administration has declared a power grid emergency more than 60 times in the last two years.

The DOE has also been using the order to prevent certain power plants from shutting down permanently, which has drawn lawsuits from states and environmental groups, arguing the emergency is being misused.

In September, the US Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit ruled that the DOE had exceeded the law's emergency powers by using Section 202(c) to keep open the JH Campbell coal plant in **Michigan**.

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https://omaha.com/opinion/column/article_ce214d2e-1c39-47cc-ae7f-9fc5bb6b056c.html

ALERT TOP STORY TOPICAL

Op-ed: I'm an Omaha Catholic. It's immoral to keep pushing the green agenda

David D. Begley
Oct 11, 2026

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Attention Omaha Catholics! You do not have to vote for Democrat Mark Gudgel in order to remain in good standing with the Catholic Church.

You also don't have to vote for Democrats Carol Blood or Sara Kohen. All three are committed to continuing OPPD's unlawful and uneconomic Net Zero policy.

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I'm entirely the product of Omaha Catholic schools: Holy Cross, Creighton Prep and Creighton University. But unlike Prof. Daniel DiLeo, I'm a conservative. I find it completely reprehensible that Prof. DiLeo is insinuating that Roman Catholic doctrine requires a person to vote for radical environmental extremists.

In the first place, the papacy is only infallible in matters of faith and morals. When a Pope and his bishops stray from their circle of competency, they are making a giant strategic mistake. When their political opinions are shown to be wrong — as they repeatedly have been — they diminish their credibility on real matters of theology.

People are also reading...

1 **Op-ed: I'm an Omaha Catholic. It's immoral to keep pushing the green agenda**

2 **Omaha police identify driver killed in crash that toppled I-480 signs**

3 **McKewon: Nebraska's come too close, too often, to get too much praise for coming close again**

4 **Nebraska moves up again in receiving votes category of AP poll after close call vs. Indiana**

One of the bishops' six principles is "giving special attention to the needs of the poor and members of minority groups." Another point the bishops made was that fossil fuel needs to be replaced with "secure, reliable, affordable, and clean energy."

If OPPD continues to add more industrial and intermittent solar and wind to its grid, rates will go up. And they will go up substantially. The extremely generous federal income tax credits for wind and solar electricity have been terminated. Some projects got half their cash flow from "free" federal government money. The federal money, of course, wasn't free. It just got added to our $40 trillion debt.

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The for-profit companies that want to enter into power purchase agreements with OPPD aren't about to cut their profit margins and so they will be substantially increasing their rates on any new project. Energy broker Level Ten Energy has already seen a one quarter price increase of 7%, and it is projecting increases of 40% to 120%. In the past year, approximately 10% of U.S. utility customers have received a disconnect notice. More Green energy means more disconnect notices.

Price increases for the essential commodity of electricity hit the poor the hardest. In Europe, there is a thing called "energy poverty." Electric rates over there are way more than in the US. That's why some people have to choose between eating and staying comfortable in their homes. The moral crime here is that the poor even have to make that choice. Rich liberal academics are forcing them to do so because of their foolish opinions.

Wind and solar energy are, by their very nature, not reliable. They are intermittent. And to make matters worse, that unreliability resulted in a nationwide blackout in Spain last year. People unnecessarily died. And, no, batteries aren't going to fix the reliability problem.

The clergy aren't educated in economics. But I did study economics at Creighton University. One thing I learned is that the way the United States became the greatest nation in the world is because we use and develop our resources in the most efficient way and practice Adam Smith's law of natural advantage.

In that respect, it is an economic cardinal sin to convert efficient food-producing real estate in Nebraska into inefficient energy production. Our friends in Oklahoma and Texas, on the other hand, have abundant supplies of cheap oil and gas that we use to generate electricity and grow food.

To highlight how economically inefficient solar and wind energy is, Energy Secretary Chris Wright recently said that the world has spent over $20 trillion over 20 years on green energy but it is only 3% of global energy.

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I doubt one could find a bigger waste of money. Some of that same money could have been spent on the health, education and welfare of the poor rather than fixing a crisis that doesn't exist.

One of the main problems the Left has on this topic is that luxuriate in their refusal to do the math. They are careless. Serious political leaders can't be careless in order to advance the best interests of voters.

On a local level, OPPD emits approximately 0.0076 gigatons of carbon dioxide per year. This year's wildfires in Canada emitted 2.4 to 3.28 gigatons. Whatever carbon dioxide reduction OPPD's Net Zero policy might achieve is a rounding error.

As a person educated by the Society of Jesus, I submit that it is immoral to keep pushing the Green Agenda as it only harms everyone to the benefit of a few elites. All the money wasted on wind and solar energy is being spent to avoid a dubious and highly speculative result in 2100.

David D. Begley is an Omaha lawyer and graduate of Creighton University.

Our best Omaha staff photos & videos of September 2026

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Approximately 87% to 89% of the world's annual carbon dioxide emissions are sourced from outside the United States.

According to tracking data from Our World in Data and the Global Carbon Budget, the United States currently accounts for about 11% to 13% of annual global CO2 emissions. The remaining share is produced by the rest of the world, led predominantly by China (roughly 29% to 33%) and India (around 8%).

So, why does OPPD have a Net Zero policy?

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The night of October 1, 2026 a historic and near-record torrential rainfall from the remnants of Pacific Hurricane Polo slammed the Omaha metro area.

The storm dropped **4.57 inches of rain officially in Omaha**, with some parts of the metro and surrounding areas like Gretna and Millard reporting devastating totals of **5 to 7 inches**. Most of this rain fell in an incredibly short 2-to-3-hour window, leading to widespread flash flooding, mudslides, and power outages.

Property damages in the millions of dollars.

Thankfully, no loss of life.

Cause? Global Warming!

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Compare 2026 rain event to 1964 Papillion Creek flood.

Night of June 16-17, 1964, **7 to 8 inches of rain** dropped in three hours. Seven people died across the watershed. Westgate and Millard hardest hit. Ninety-five trailer homes swept away.

In 1964, carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere was **319.62** PPM.

In 2026, it is **429** PPM.

The 1964 storm was worse, but the carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere was way less.

Ergo, carbon dioxide didn't cause either storm. Both storms were natural events.

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The Net Zero goal is 450 ppm by 2050.

Spending trillions of dollars on reducing a trace gas in the atmosphere by a tiny amount is absurd.

Even more absurd is the notion that OPPD should go along with the Net Zero fantasy given the fact that OPPD's gross carbon dioxide emissions are tiny when compared to that of the United States as whole or a country like China.

Conclusion: **CAGW is the biggest scam in the history of the world.**