

Board Chair and CEO Message



President and CEO Timothy J. Burke, left, and Board Chair Craig C. Moody

At Omaha Public Power District, we pride ourselves on being here for our customers and our community each and every day.

Our customers enjoy some of the nation's most affordable, reliable and environmentally sensitive energy services, thanks to the hard and innovative work of our employees.

Across 13 counties in Nebraska, our employees do their part to help our customers thrive. Whether it's local business owners, new homeowners or community leaders, our reliable and affordable services help others achieve big things.

This past year, our employees did work that made us all proud to be part of this utility. In March, historic flooding caused two-thirds of Nebraska's 93 counties to declare emergencies. The OPPD service territory, much of which sits along the Missouri River, was one of the hardest hit. Employees rallied to fill sandbags that protected our generating stations and other infrastructure from rising floodwaters, made emergency repairs in local communities and staffed our operations around the clock for two weeks as our business continuity team monitored those efforts.

Employees were able to protect our infrastructure and keep power on to customers and help those hardest hit return to normalcy.

OPPD's Board of Directors agreed with the recommendation to move Fort Calhoun Station decommissioning from the SAFSTOR method to Deconstruction in 2018, and hired EnergySolutions as our partner on the project in 2019.

The year also saw the completion of our community solar facility, which sits on five acres in Washington County. Shares for this sold out in just 49 days. Later in the year, we announced plans to pursue what will be the state's largest utility-scale solar project at between 400 and 600 megawatts (MW) of solar with natural gas backup.

OPPD also announced plans to reduce carbon emissions to net zero by the year 2050, furthering our role as leaders in the industry. The utility provided more than 30% of retail sales from renewable energy last year and commissioned 165 MW of additional renewables as the Sholes Wind Energy Center (160 MW) and the community solar facility (5 MW) came online at the end of 2019.

OPPD has also maintained its commitment to customers to have no general rate increase for five years. The area received another big economic boost when Google announced plans to build a new data center in Papillion, Neb. OPPD's work was cited in both preparing the area for development and the utility's Rate 261M, which enables large-load, high-voltage-transmission-level customers to meet their renewable energy needs.

In 2019, OPPD also won a number of awards, including Habitat for Humanity's Corporate Partner of the Year and the Urban League of Nebraska's Diversity and Inclusion Champion Award, as well as being named one of Nebraska's Safest Companies by the National Safety Council.

As this report shows, OPPD remains in a strong financial position. At OPPD, we continue to do our part as the valued and dependable energy partner to our customer-owners, making sure our communities continue to thrive, both today and tomorrow.

Timothy J. Burke
President and CEO

Craig C. Moody
Chair of the Board