



# Power with Purpose Update

## June Committee Meeting: Open Session

June 9, 2020



# Agenda

- Challenges + Framework = Solution
- Timeline
- Solar Update
- Natural Gas Update
- Stakeholder Update
- Sarpy County

# How did we get to today?

## *Working Towards Solutions*

### Challenges

- Changing generation landscape
- Supporting the needs of our growing communities
- Maintaining reliability and resiliency

+

### Framework

- OPPD's Mission  
Affordable, Reliable  
& Environmentally Sensitive
- Strategic Directives
- Legal and Regulatory  
Obligations

=

### Solution

- **Large utility scale solar** with natural gas backup
- Modernized natural gas assets; replacement for North Omaha Units 1-3 retirements and Units 4 & 5 refuel to natural gas
- Voltage support device(s)
- Request for Proposal (RFP) results will finalize the modeling conclusions

### Benefits

- Ensures OPPD is able to meet the needs of our customer-owners while maintaining affordability, reliability and resiliency.
- Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions are expected to be reduced by 80-90% over current North Omaha emissions.
- In total, over our journey from 2010-2024, we estimate a 30% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
- OPPD expects to maintain no general rate increase from these solutions.

# Power with Purpose Update Timeline



Power with Purpose Modeling

Integrated Modeling (generation, financial, transmission, etc.)

Solar

RFP process: evaluation, technical review, negotiations

Gas

RFP process: evaluation, technical review, negotiations

Regulatory

SPP Interconnection Application – Deadline April 30, 2020 (Requires land control)      Regulatory Approvals

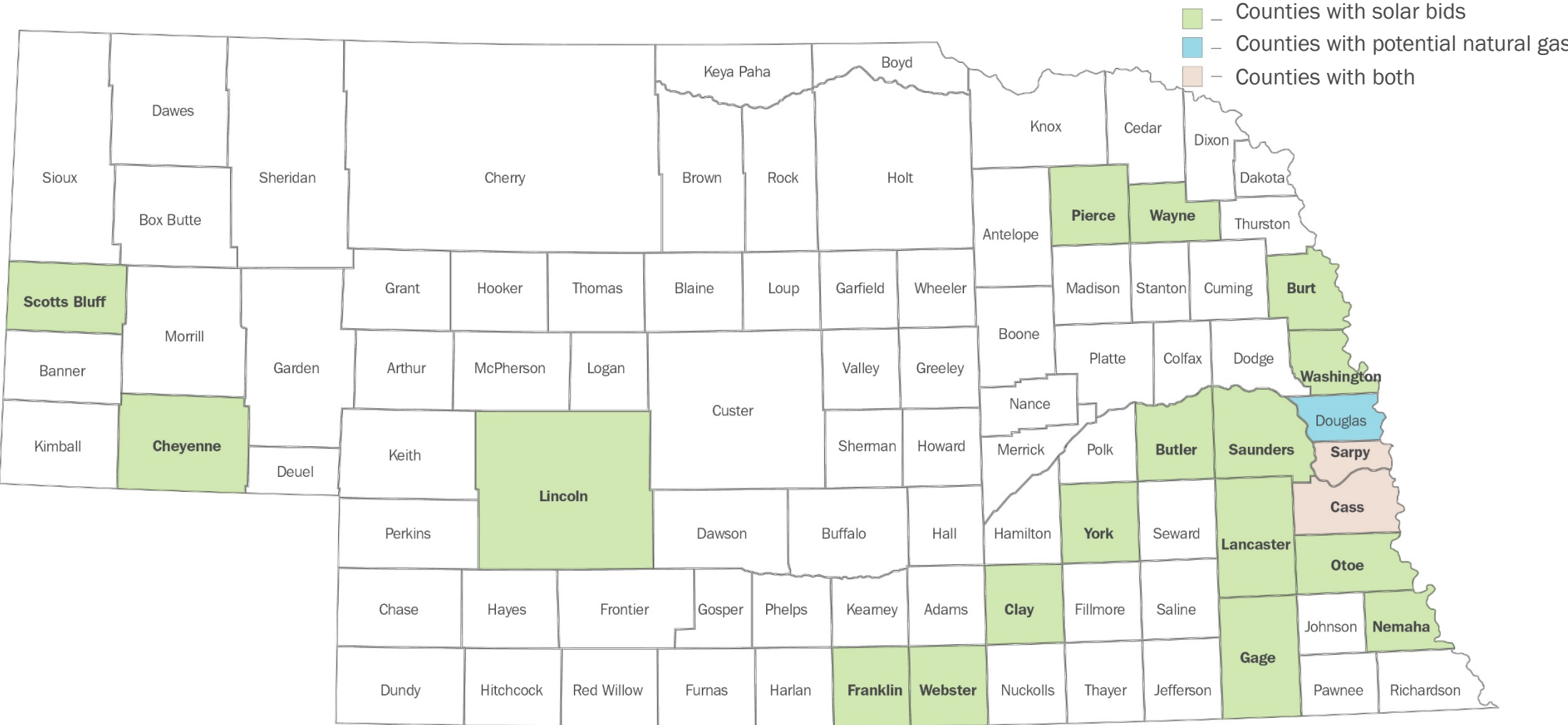
State of Utility

\*COVID-19 Focus      Delayed due to COVID-19 and moved from in-person presentations to online materials and feedback survey

Phase II Outreach

Potentially Impacted Stakeholder Conversations and Updates      Ongoing stakeholder touch points for generation and transmission siting (as necessary)

# Potential Solar & Natural Gas Locations



Shading represents counties where solar RFP bids were provided. No decisions on location or projects have been made. Modeling and evaluation of proposals are ongoing and help inform optimal vicinity for natural gas back-up power generation.

# Solar Updates: April – June

## April – May

- Conducted detailed technical and financial review of proposals
- Conducted potential site stakeholder discussions

## June

- Continue proposal evaluation and sourcing process
- Continue potential site stakeholder discussions

# Natural Gas Asset & Supply Updates: April – June

## April – May

- Continued evaluation of natural gas supply options
- Submitted required documentation to Southwest Power Pool
- Continued development of gas generation assets Request For Proposal (RFP)
- Conducted potential site stakeholder discussions

## June

- Refine technology specific sections of gas generation assets RFP
- Continue evaluation of natural gas supply options
- Continue potential site stakeholder discussions



# Stakeholder Outreach

Board Update, June 2020





# Outreach Approach

**Phase I – In Progress (delayed slight due to COVID)**

Broad Community Listening & Education

District-wide State of Utility (moved online)

**Phase II – Spring - Summer**

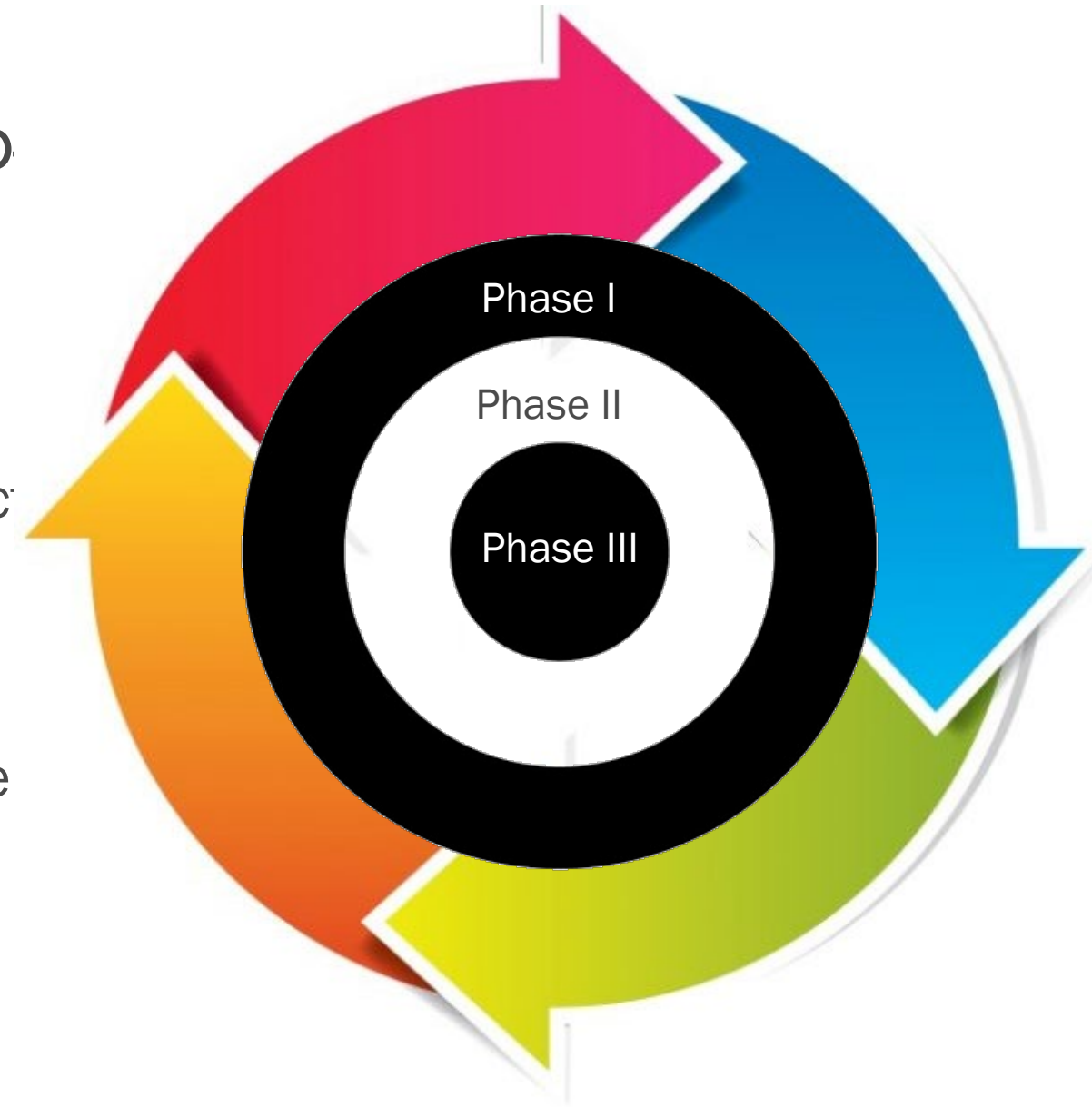
Conversations and Updates with Potentially Impacted Areas as Modeling Continues

**Phase III – Spring - Summer**

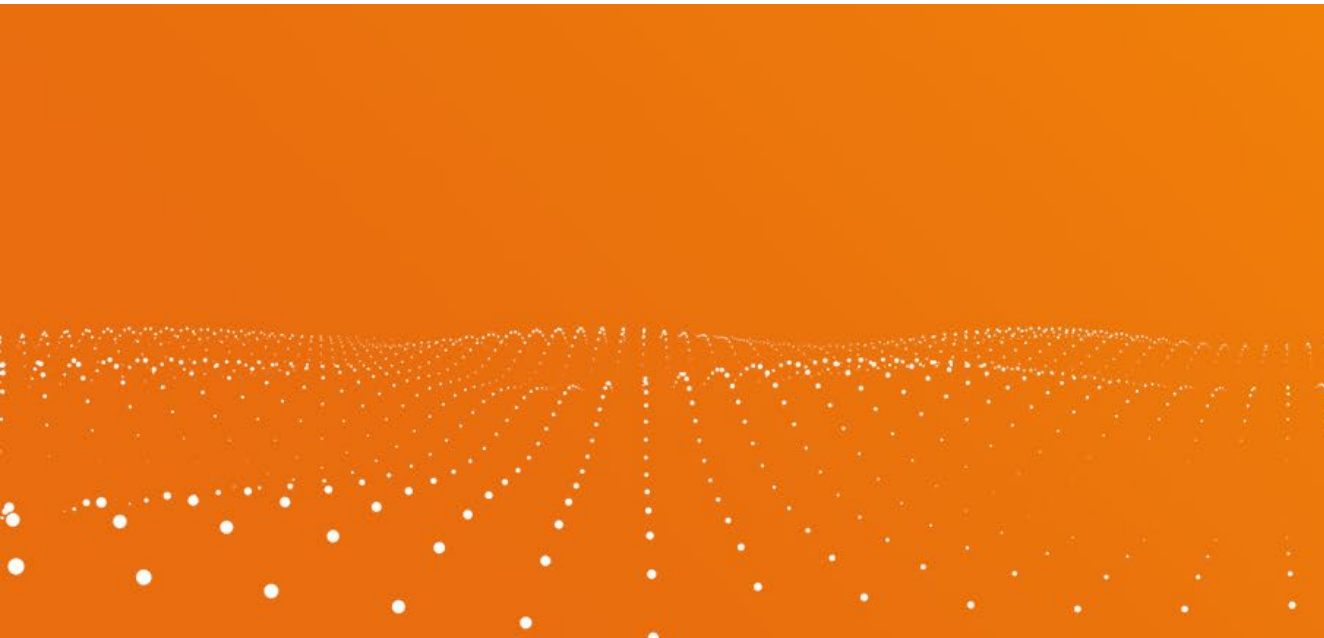
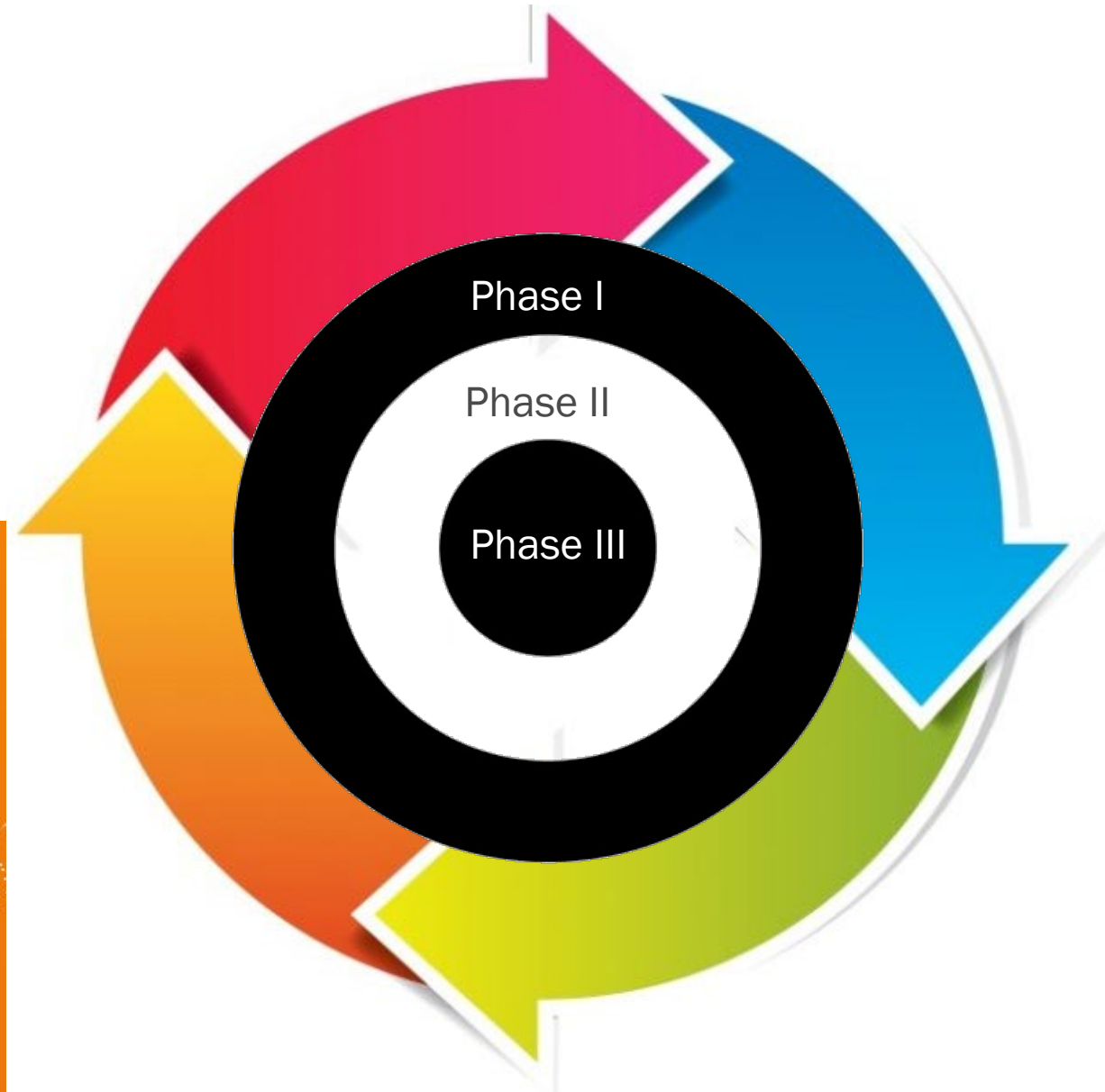
Engagement with Directly Impacted (i.e. landowners)  
Interested (i.e. community leaders)

**Ongoing**

Outreach and Communication to Close the Loop



# Phase I



# Communications

## Ongoing

- Emails
- Speakers Bureau
- Print ads
- Websites
  - OPPD.com
  - OPPDtheWire
  - OPPDListens
- Outlets
- Social Media
- Media Contacts
- Community Posters
- Direct Mail (upcoming)
- Doorhangers (upcoming)

### Customer outreach moving to online format

APRIL 20, 2020 | LAURA KING-HOMAN | COMMUNITY, OUTREACH



Coronavirus is keeping people at home, but OPPD is still interested in feedback from customers. And the utility is using innovative approaches to engage its customers.

Prior to the virus changing societal norms, OPPD planned to host a series of open houses throughout its service territory to discuss the “State of the Utility.” The update highlights recent and upcoming projects, including the addition of **utility-scale solar**.

#### Online format

Now, the utility is adjusting how it provides that same information by making it available in an **online format**. Customers can ask questions about the topics and provide feedback at [OPPDListens.com](https://OPPDListens.com) through May. Topics include:

# Power with Purpose

## October-November 2019

- Employee, Retiree & Stakeholder Meetings
- OPPDListens
- Social Media Posts
- Educational Workshops
- Outlets
- Outreach to Top 500 Commercial & Industrial Customers
- Media presence - OPPDtheWire, KFAB, KETV, WOWT, KPTM APPA and more

**Power with Purpose**  
Continuing Our Journey

Challenges	Framework	Solution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Changing generation (resources)</li><li>• Supporting the needs of our growing communities</li><li>• Maintaining reliability and resiliency</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• OPPD's mission, vision, values and environmentally sensitive energy services</li><li>• Strategic Direction</li><li>• Legal and regulatory obligations</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Large, utility-scale solar (400-800 megawatts) with natural gas backup</li><li>• Multistep natural gas assets replacement for North Dakota Units 1-3 retirement and Units 4 and 5 retirement from coal to natural gas</li><li>• Voltage support devices</li><li>• Expanding the Resources for Dispatch (RRD), the modeling will finalize the construction</li></ul>

**Benefits**

Ensures OPPD is able to meet the needs of our customer service while maintaining efficiency, resiliency and reliability.

Customer choice: 100% emissions are expected to be reduced by 80-90% per barrel fired. Create 100 emissions.

In total, over our 20-year lifetime, we will:

- Save \$1.5 billion in fuel costs
- Save 1.5 million tons of CO2 emissions

**Wholesale Markets**

As a bulk power system seller and operator, OPPD has a security obligation to comply with federal requirements.

**in the job → SAFETY**

**Jobs by Region**

**Jobs by State**



# State of the Utility

## April-May 2020

- Adapted due to the pandemic
- Committed to engaging customers, while being empathetic to their concerns
- Moved from in-person meetings to putting all information online, with opportunities for customers to provide feedback
  - Customers can offer comments, ask questions and rank satisfaction on a variety of topics
- Promoted State of the Utility in:
  - April and May board press release
  - 8 print ads in Nemaha, Blair, Arlington, Ashland, Wahoo, Bellevue, Gretna, Papillion and Ralston; online ads in Omaha World-Herald
  - 385,000 impressions with May *Outlets* article
  - Employee OPPD News story
  - OPPD The Wire story
  - 500+ emails to hundreds of OPPD business customers and organizations
  - Virtual interviews and presentations (Earth Day, Ashland Rotary, etc.)




### State of the Utility

Continuing our Journey: 2020 Look Ahead

For over 70 years, OPPD has been where the light starts. We serve more than 846,000 people in 13 counties, making OPPD the 12th largest public power utility in the U.S. While honoring our heritage in public power, we have embraced changes in the energy sector, such as expansion of renewable technologies and a global focus on carbon reduction. We're proud of our journey and how far we've come, while never losing sight of OPPD's unwavering mission to provide affordable, reliable, and environmentally sensitive energy services to customers.

Your Energy Partner  
**OPPD**  
Omaha Public Power District

**There's a lot to look forward to in 2020, including:**

- 1 Our people are invested in the communities we serve.**  
OPPD employees are active members of the communities we serve. In 2019 alone, employees volunteered thousands of hours.  

- 2 We are planning ahead for potential flooding in 2020 to ensure resiliency.**  
We're taking important lessons learned from the flooding that occurred in March 2019 and making strategic investments to proactively minimize flood risk in the future.  

- 3 We are making smart investments to safeguard energy system reliability.**  
Through efforts like tree trimming, LED street lighting, cable upgrades, and transmission and distribution improvements, our employees are committed to keeping the lights on.
- 4 We are grateful to have received \$1.2 million in grants to pilot a 1MW battery storage project...**  
OPPD's BRIGHT (Battery Research Innovation Guided by High-Potential Technologies) project, funded by the Nebraska Environmental Trust, will provide innovative research benefiting all Nebraskans. This pilot will test how battery storage will integrate on OPPD's grid and provide insight on how to scale for future applications.
- 5 ...AND to install 10 total electric charging stations at five sites.**  
Electric vehicles, coupled with OPPD's continued effort to increase renewable energy use, provides compounding carbon emissions reduction.  


# State of the Utility

## April-May 2020


- Online State of the Utility Survey Results
  - 446 page views
  - 115 survey responses
- Satisfaction Levels (by Topic)
 

- Invested in Communities	85% very or somewhat satisfied
- Resiliency	77% very or somewhat satisfied
- Emergency Response	100% very or somewhat satisfied
- Reliability	82% very or somewhat satisfied
- Battery Storage	75% very or somewhat satisfied
- EV Charging Stations	90% very or somewhat satisfied
- Economic Development	82% very or somewhat satisfied
- Decarbonization	77% very or somewhat satisfied
- Solar + Gas	92% very or somewhat satisfied
- No General Rate Increase	81% very or somewhat satisfied

Power with Purpose

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**5** We're also installing 10 electric vehicle charging stations at five sites



**OPPD also received a nearly \$600,000 grant to increase the number of electric vehicle charging stations in our service territory.** By working to expand the network of charging stations – OPPD is demonstrating our commitment to changing customer needs.

The Nebraska Department of Environment & Energy administered a grant as part of the \$12.25 million received from the Volkswagen settlement fund. OPPD received one third of the total grant monies available, which represents the largest award in the state.

We Want to Hear From You

Your feedback is appreciated. When complete, please click "Done" at the bottom of the survey to submit your responses.

1. How satisfied are you with OPPD's efforts related to electric vehicle charging?

Very Satisfied       Somewhat Dissatisfied  
 Somewhat Satisfied       Very Dissatisfied  
 Neutral/No Opinion

Share any additional thoughts. **We're listening!**

Environmentally Sensitive

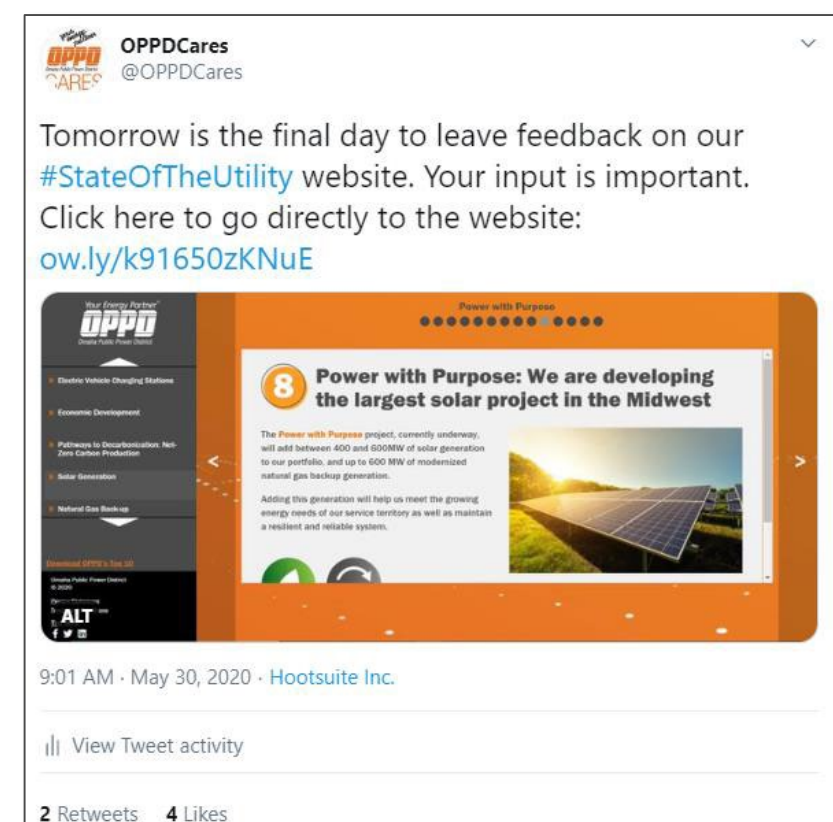
Reliable

powered by SurveyMonkey

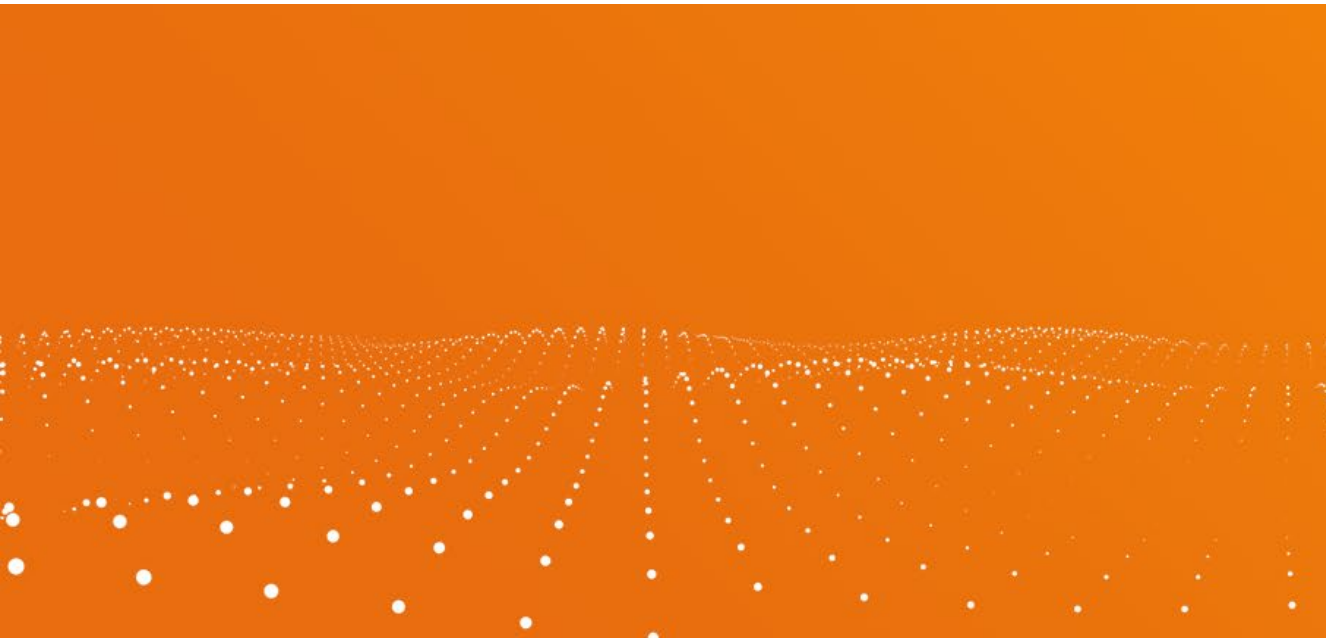
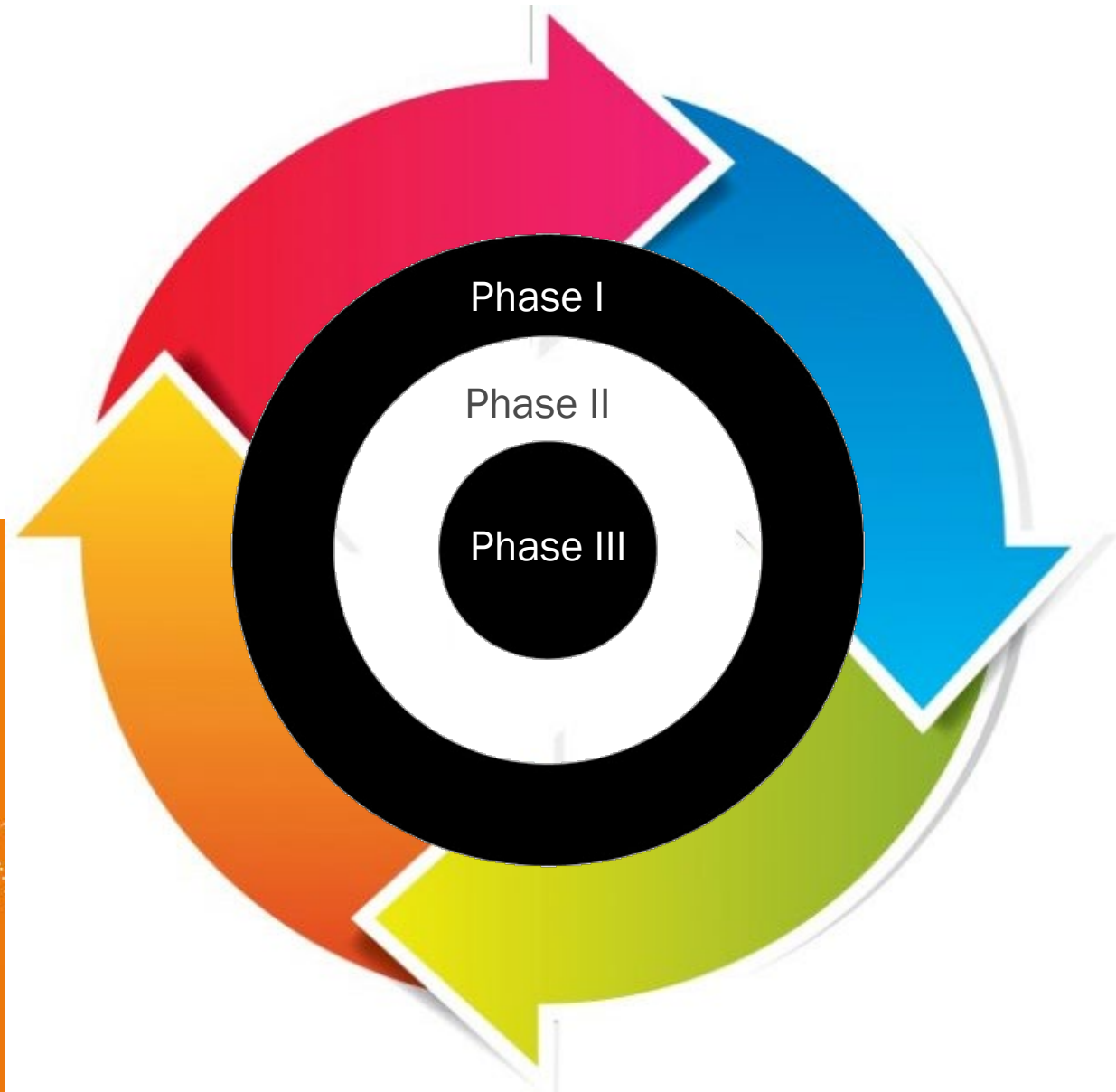
# State of the Utility

## April-May 2020

- Empathetic, but consistent in efforts to communicate OPPD's commitment
- Social Media
  - Twitter 17 posts; 16,509 impressions
  - Facebook 14 posts; 14,110 impressions
- “Powering through the Pandemic” Campaign
  - Employees spotlights via TheWire and social media
  - Digital billboards thanking employees and highlighting commitment to customers
- 1:1 meetings with mayors, city administrators, commissioners, planners, economic development contacts, senators, developers, etc.
- Speakers Bureau
  - Earth Day interview, communities organizations like Omaha By Design, rotaries and other events



# Phase II & III





# New Engagement Platform

June 2020

- Benchmarked what others were doing
- First, best and most trusted source of information
- First U.S. electric utility to use this platform – Leading the Way!
- Site to include multiple opportunities to engage, beyond large projects

The screenshot displays the 'Current Conversations' section of the OPPD engagement platform. It features several content cards:

- Power with Purpose:** Includes an image of solar panels and text about OPPD's utility scale solar project with natural gas backup.
- State of the Utility:** Includes an image of utility workers and text about current work and future expectations.
- OPPD COVID-19 Updates & Resources:** Includes an image of a child in a mask and text about employee safety.
- Pathways to Decarbonization:** Includes an image of trees and text about decarbonization goals.
- Together, we're better.:** A central article with a globe image, explaining decarbonization and OPPD's contribution. It includes social media icons and a 'Who's Listening' section.
- Who's Listening:** Lists staff members like Jeremy Bowers and Karisa Vlasek.
- Lifecycle:** A timeline of key events from April 2050 to November 2019.

The central article 'Together, we're better.' contains the following text:

**What is decarbonization?** Simply, it's the reduction of carbon or greenhouse gas emissions. Although some carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) occurs naturally in the Earth's atmosphere, there are several human activities that increase levels of the greenhouse gas. These include burning fossil fuels, emissions from transportation or removing trees (deforestation).

**Why is there a need for a decarbonization initiative?** Trees and plants absorb CO<sub>2</sub> and, with sunlight and water, convert it to food. When humans emit more CO<sub>2</sub> than our plants can absorb, that's hard on our environment.

**What is OPPD's contribution?** OPPD is striving for net zero carbon production by 2050. Working side-by-side with our customers and communities, we are working to improve our environmental impact while maintaining reliability, resiliency and affordability.

Our strategic initiative has four areas of focus: energy portfolio, internal operations, customers and community.

Energy Portfolio	Internal Operations	Customer	Community

**Who's Listening:**

- Jeremy Bowers**  
Program Manager - Decarbonization
- Karisa Vlasek**  
Coordinator-Grants & Stakeholder Outreach  
Omaha Public Power District

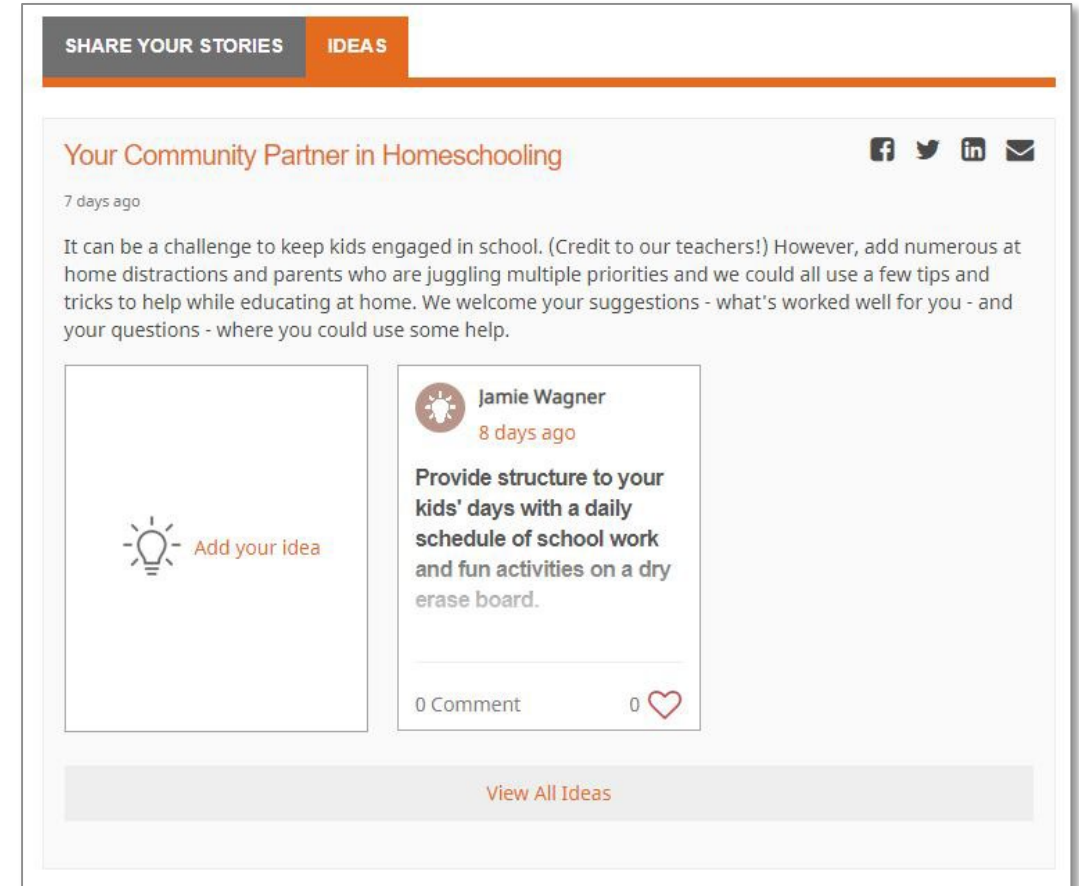
**Lifecycle:**

- November 2019**  
Board Resolution striving for net zero carbon production by 2050.
- Fall 2019 - Summer 2021**  
Energy Portfolio: Working toward 400-600 megawatts (MW) of solar with up to 600 MW of natural gas backup.
- July 2020**  
Community virtual stakeholder meeting, 7 p.m. - log on info at [OPPD.com](http://OPPD.com)
- April 2050**  
Net Zero Time!

# OPPDCommunityConnect

## June 2020

- OPPDCommunityConnect
  - Engaged employees and external stakeholders
  - The name reflects WHO and WHAT we want to do
- Enhanced customer experience
  - Interactive tools
  - Quick polls and surveys
  - Virtual charrettes (idea sharing)
  - Forums
- Community can engage with each other, similar to social media
- Transparency on levels of engagement, based on International Association of Public Participation (IAP2)



# Virtual and “Social Distance” Meetings

*June-August 2020*

- **Format**
  - 1-hour, interview style for all customers
  - Open Q&A
  - Record and post to engagement platform
- **June**
  - Broader education
  - Solar, natural gas and decarbonization
- **July-August**
  - Targeted communities as sites are announced



# Sarpy County

