

BOARD CHAIR AND CEO MESSAGE



President and CEO
L. Javier Fernandez



Board Chair
Amanda E. Bogner, P.E.

2021 was a special year for Omaha Public Power District – our 75th anniversary. It was a time for our entire organization to reflect on all of the changes and challenges we have faced and look toward the future. We were able to celebrate this milestone with a company-wide gathering, while adhering to COVID-19 safety measures. It was a time to acknowledge the hard work and sacrifice of those who came before us to make OPPD the reliable and resilient energy partner it is today.

We also took time to look toward the future and have conversations around our strategic vision, Powering the Future to 2050. The components of this vision will shape the work OPPD does for our customer-owners for decades to come. At OPPD, we have been change-makers in our industry for decades and we will continue to embrace that role as we work to Power the Future.

Like everyone else, OPPD has had to adjust to the new normal of living and working during COVID-19. That has meant extra precautions and safety measures for our employees, especially critical, frontline employees, whose dedication ensures the power keeps flowing for our customers.

In 2021, our employees rose to the challenges of dealing with extreme weather situations. From Winter Storm Uri in February, which plunged much of the country into arctic conditions, to the historic July 10 storm, which caused the largest number of outages OPPD has endured, with more than 180,000 customers losing power. But with help from our mutual aid partners, we were able to restore power quickly and safely to our service territory in a matter of days.

We've worked with customers and stakeholders through a series of online town halls and other forums to engage with them on what the utility of the future looks like. Despite the measures and precautions we've taken with the pandemic, we continue to engage with the public around our Power with Purpose project and Pathways to Decarbonization initiative. Preliminary grading began in late 2021 on our two backup natural gas generating stations, which will support 400 to 600 megawatts (MW) of utility-scale solar.

In June, OPPD received its 500th customer-owned generation interconnection application, as more and more customers look to partner with OPPD to produce their own power. OPPD is also helping customers who want to transition to electric vehicles (EV) by unveiling an online guide to help customers make the right choice for them. Popular programs offering incentives and rebates around EVs continued in 2021, and more charging stations continue to be added around the OPPD service territory.

Our decommissioning work at our Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station continues, as work to dismantle the internal components of the reactor vessel begins, followed by the dismantling of the reactor itself.

In July, I took over as president and CEO of OPPD following the retirement of Timothy J. Burke. Prior to this role, I served as OPPD's chief financial officer. On a somber note, Mart Sedky, OPPD's vice president of Human Capital, passed away in September, leaving behind a legacy of care and excellence through her time with the organization.

Across 13 counties in Nebraska, our employees do their part to help our customers thrive, just as they have for the past 75 years and will continue to do so for generations to come. One constant OPPD's customers can count on is the promise of reliable, affordable and environmentally sensitive energy services yesterday, today and for many tomorrows to come.

L. Javier Fernandez
President and CEO

Amanda E. Bogner, P.E.
Chair of the Board