

OPPD takes on Winter Storm Gerri



Faced with exceptional cold and strong demand for electricity in January, OPPD continued to generate power reliably with help from its workforce, customers and a diverse energy portfolio.

Throughout the district, OPPD employees braved dangerous wind chills, icy roads and long hours to serve the public.

OPPD kept power flowing with help from diverse generation sources, including natural gas, wind, solar and coal. The extreme weather from Winter Storm Gerri and low water levels on the Missouri River created challenges that workers throughout the utility worked diligently to address.

Residential, commercial and

industrial customers helped as well through conservation, reducing their usage during several critical stretches of extreme cold.

OPPD's service territory saw near-record-low temperatures during the storm, with intense snow and wind chills as low as -40 degrees Fahrenheit.

MARCH BOARD MEETINGS

All-committee meeting: Tuesday, Mar. 19 (see oppd.com/BoardMeeting for details). **Regular board meeting:** Thursday, Mar. 21, 5 p.m. (see oppd.com/BoardMeeting for details). Hearing-impaired call 531-226-3208, 72 hours prior to request an interpreter. Agendas posted and meetings viewable on oppd.com/BoardMeeting.

Outlets

OUR MISSION

Provide affordable, reliable and environmentally sensitive energy services to our customers.

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Omaha Public Power District



A friendly reminder

Don't forget to register for the 17th annual Heat the Streets Run & Walk for Warmth, co-hosted by OPPD and Metropolitan Utilities District.

The event is Saturday, March 2, at Aksarben Village in Omaha. Participants will begin at Zone 6 in Aksarben Village. Events include timed 5K

and 10K runs and an untimed walk. The timed events will begin at 9 a.m., followed by the untimed walk. A virtual option is also available.

The event raises money for OPPD's Energy Assistance Program and M.U.D.'s Home Fund. For more information, visit HeatTheStreetsOmaha.com.

Teaching the next generation of power plant specialists

At OPPD's power plants and generating stations are teachers who help prepare employees for the technical jobs needed to generate reliable power for customers.

Those teachers are known as senior instructional technicians, and they play a crucial role in helping OPPD meet unprecedented demand for electricity.

Senior instructional technicians teach classes, simulate control-room problems for trainees and test students with written and oral exams. They instruct from formal lesson plans and their own practical

experience, earned through years of shift work at the plants.


To teach others, senior instructional technicians need a thorough understanding of every major part of their plant. Every unit is different, thanks to the various suppliers and technology OPPD has used over the years.

Senior instructional technicians need a strong desire to learn them-



selves, and the ability to read trainees. Everybody learns at their own pace, and some need extra attention.

Insulated pipes improve energy efficiency



We all know that wall insulation slows the flow of heat and helps make your home energy efficient, but what about pipe insulation?

Your water pipes can and should be insulated, if possible, whenever they're exposed to an unconditioned space. Insulated pipes can deliver water 2-4 degrees Fahrenheit hotter than uninsulated pipes. That can mean a lower water heater tank setting, which can help save money.

Here are some tips for how and where to insulate exposed pipes:

Use a minimum rating of R-4 for your pipe insulation. The most common form is tubular foam insulation. You can cut this to length and miter the corners. Be sure the inside diameter of the foam insulation matches the pipe's diameter. The foam should cover the pipe completely.

Many water pipes run through unconditioned spaces, such as utility rooms and unfinished basements, and those should be insulated.

Insulate hot water pipes from the water heater to the fixtures that use hot water (bathroom, kitchen, etc.). But don't worry about lines you can't reach. Insulate what you can within reason.

Insulate cold water pipes for the first 5 feet of cold water line, starting at the water heater. You lose some heat in the area when in standby mode (when no one is home) since water circulates by convection up into the lines near the water heater on both your hot and cold sides.

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