



OPPDU BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 16, 2023

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Omaha Public Power District (“OPPDU” or “District”) was held on Thursday, March 16, 2023 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.

Present in person at the Civic Center were Directors M. J. Cavanaugh, M. R. Core, S. E. Howard, J. M. Mollhoff, C. C. Moody, M. G. Spurgeon and E. H. Williams. A. E. Bogner was absent. Also present in person were L. J. Fernandez, President and Chief Executive Officer, S. M. Bruckner and T.F. Meyerson of the Fraser Stryker law firm, General Counsel for the District, E. H. Lane, Sr. Board Operations Specialist, and other members of the OPPDU Board meeting logistics support staff. Chair E. H. Williams presided and E. H. Lane recorded the minutes. Members of the executive leadership team present in person included: J. M. Bishop, S. M. Focht, T. D. McAreavey, K.S. McCormick, L. A. Olson, B. R. Underwood and T. R. Via. K. W. Brown attended via WebEx. M. V. Purnell was absent.

Board Agenda Item 1: Chair Opening Statement

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

Board Agenda Item 2: Safety Briefing

R. D. Bland, Security Advisor, provided the safety briefing for the Civic Center. President Fernandez provided physical and psychological safety reminders, including current safety focus reminders about: (i) fatigue awareness; (ii) roadway safety; and (iii) preventing hand, finger and thumb injuries.

Board Agenda Item 3: Guidelines for Participation

Chair Williams then presented the guidelines for the conduct of the meeting and instructions on the public comment process in the room and 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, who was absent.

Board Agenda Item 5: Announcement regarding public notice of meeting

Ms. Lane read the following:

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“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, OPPD Outlets newsletter, oppd.com and social media; by displaying such notice on the Arcade Level of Energy Plaza; and by e-mailing such notice to each of the District’s Directors on March 10, 2023.

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 and in this meeting room.”

Board Consent Action Items:

6. Approval of the February 2023 Meeting Minutes and the March 16, 2023 Agenda.
7. SD-14: Retirement Plan Funding Monitoring Report – Resolution 6553.
8. NC2 Economizer Outlet Expansion Joint Replacement -- Labor Contract Award – Resolution 6554.
9. Substation Control Building & Switchgear Enclosure – Resolution 6555.
10. NW Omaha ED Steel Transmission and Substation Structures – Resolution 6556.
11. Sarpy County Station (SC3) Generator Circuit Breaker & Disconnect Switch Replacement – Engineer’s Certification – Resolution 6557.

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

Chair Williams noted the Board discussed the action items during the All Committees meeting held on Tuesday, March 14, 2023.

Chair Williams then asked for public comment. There was no comment from the public in attendance at the meeting or via WebEx.

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

Board Discussion Action Items:

12. VP Sustainability & Environmental Affairs Appointment – Resolution 6558

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Omaha Public Power District that the appointment of Cliff Fleener as Vice President-Sustainability and Environmental Affairs, and the compensation as set forth on the attached exhibit, be and hereby are approved, effective April 17, 2023.

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

Chair Williams noted the Board discussed the action items during the All Committees meeting held on Tuesday, March 14, 2023.

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Chair Williams then asked for public comment. There was no comment from the public in attendance at the meeting or via WebEx.

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

Chair Williams invited Cliff Fleener to address the Board. Mr. Fleener thanked the Board and the leadership team of OPPD for their graciousness and looks forward to working with everyone in the District to promote a sustainable and environmentally friendly future.

Board Agenda Item 10: President's Report

President Fernandez next presented the following information:

- February Baseload Generation
- February Balancing Generation
- February Renewables
- LED Streetlight Conversion
- Transmission Basics
- Honor Our Community Activities and Events, including:
 - Heat the Streets
 - Connecting the Dots
 - Marshmallow Challenge
- Transmission Reliability Project – 108th & Blondo to 123rd & Pacific
- Electric System Evaluation and Modernization Strategic Initiative
- In Memoriam

Board Agenda Item 11: Opportunity for comment on other items of District Business

Chair Williams asked for comments from the public on other items of District business.

Mr. David Begley, 4611 S. 96th Street, Omaha, dissented to OPPD's net zero policy and provided written materials that referenced facts and data to support his opinion.

Mr. Bill McKay, 320 Crystal Dr, shared his home is powered by solar and he would like to have meter readings showing on his bill. He and his wife sent a letter to the Board, regarding the request, for their review.

Mr. David Corbin, 1002 N. 49th Street, appreciated the committee presentation on load growth and meeting demand in the future. He also thanked the district for the North Omaha update and welcomed the new VP, Sustainability and Environmental Affairs.

Mr. John Pollack, 1412 N. 35th Street, Omaha, pointed out Earth Day is approaching and many people will be planting trees, and he provided a weather update.

There were no additional comments from the public in attendance at the meeting or via WebEx.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

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S. M. Focht
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S. M. Focht
Vice President – Corporate Strategy and
Governance and Assistant Secretary

DocuSigned by:
Erin Lane
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DAVID D. Begley, customer-owner,
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China permits two new coal power plants per week in 2022

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 February 26, 2023[Download the report](#)

27 February 2022 — Chinese local governments permitted a staggering 106 gigawatts of new coal power capacity in 2022, equivalent to 100 large coal-fired power plants[1] and the most since 2015. The amount of newly permitted capacity quadrupled from 2021.

Other coal power project activity accelerated as well, with 50% more construction starts and twice as much new capacity announced as in 2021. The capacity of coal power plants that started construction in China in 2022 was six times as large as that in all of the rest of the world combined.

The Chinese energy regulator said in early 2022 that no new coal power plants would be permitted solely for the purposes of bulk power generation. However, the provinces initiating the largest numbers of new coal power projects hardly meet this requirement, as they are among the ones meeting most of the increase in their power needs through coal.

The massive new wave of coal power plants appears to be a response to last summer's electricity shortages, caused by a historic drought and heatwave, and exacerbated by outdated grid management. While China is making rapid progress in scaling up clean energy, the country's power system remains dependent on coal power capacity for meeting electricity peak loads and managing the variability of demand and clean power supply.

The major additions of new coal-fired capacity don't necessarily mean that coal use or CO₂ emissions from the power sector will increase in China. The rapid growth in clean power installations means the other possible outcome is declining utilization of the country's vast coal power fleet, as coal-fired power generation peaks and declines. In any case, hundreds of brand-new coal power plants will make meeting China's climate targets harder and costlier as the owners of the plants have an interest in protecting their assets and avoiding a rapid coal phase-out.

Lauri Myllyvirta, Lead Analyst, CREA, said: *"If China is going to meet its climate commitments, as we expect, these new coal power plants are going to end up as short-lived and under-utilized malinvestments. To meet China's goal of peaking CO2 emissions, the most urgent milestone is to scale up investments in clean power generation to cover all of power demand growth, which means declining demand for power generation from coal."*

Flora Champenois, Research Analyst, GEM, said: *"China continues to be the glaring exception to the ongoing global decline in coal plant development. The speed at which projects progressed through permitting to construction in 2022 was extraordinary, with many projects sprouting up, gaining permits, obtaining financing and breaking ground apparently in a matter of months. This kind of a process leaves little room for proper planning or consideration of alternatives."*

Key findings of the report

- 50 GW of coal power capacity started construction in China in 2022, a more than 50% increase from 2021. Many of these projects had their permits fast-tracked and moved to construction in a matter of months. A total of 98 GW of new coal power projects were permitted, more than quadrupling from 23 GW in 2021. Of the projects permitted in 2022, 60 GW were not under construction in January 2023, but are likely to start construction soon, indicating even more construction starts in 2023. In total, 86 GW of new coal power projects were initiated, more than doubling from 40 GW in 2021.
- The largest amount of capacity moved ahead in Guangdong, Jiangsu, Anhui, Zhejiang and Hubei.
- New coal power capacity added to the grid kept steady from 26.2 GW in 2021 to 26.8 GW in 2022. These two years had the lowest annual additions since 2003, reflecting the lower level of construction starts around 2017–2020. Capacity additions will rebound in a few years when projects that broke ground last year begin to come online.
- China has seen a rapid increase in electric peak loads in 2021–2022, with the highest recorded momentary load increasing by 230 GW, due to an increase in the prevalence of air conditioners and exceptionally intense heat waves. This is prompting an increase in coal power plant development as a costly and sub-optimal solution, especially in major electricity demand centres and provinces neighboring them.
- Of China's six regional grids, the South and East grid are the only ones that don't suffer from a clear thermal power overcapacity problem. Yet, 50% of newly announced projects and 40% of construction starts took place in the grids with overcapacity.
- The provinces permitting a large amount of new coal power plants try to justify the projects as "supporting" power capacity to ensure grid stability and the integration of renewable energy. This justification doesn't hold water, however, as the plants are

intended to run at baseload utilization, and these specific provinces are laggards in growing clean energy generation to meet their demand growth.

- Avoiding the need for more coal-fired power plants requires improvements in energy efficiency, demand response and investments in storage, as well as improving grid operation.
- Plant retirements slowed down further in 2022, with 4.1 GW of coal-fired capacity closed down in 2022, compared with 5.2 GW in 2021. Policies on closing down small and inefficient plants have been revised to keep these plants online instead as back-up or in normal operation after retrofits.
- The major increase in new coal power plant capacity being built will make it harder and more expensive for China to realize the rapid shift away from coal needed to meet the country's climate targets.

Policy recommendations

- Strictly control new coal power capacity and reject or revoke permits for projects that are not necessary for "supporting grid stability" or "supporting the integration of variable renewable energy".
- Accelerate investment in clean power generation to fully meet growth in electricity demand and stop increasing bulk power generation from coal.
- Increase investment in electricity storage, flexibility and transmission within grid regions. Create a level playing field for different storage, demand response and generation technologies for meeting peak demand, and enable clean flexibility technologies to scale up.
- Strengthen energy efficiency requirements for A/C units and for new buildings, and introduce a program of large-scale energy efficiency improvements for existing buildings.

Contacts

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Notes

[1] The size of coal-fired power generating units varies widely; the actual number of permitted units was 168 at 82 different plant sites.

The briefing related to the press release can be found here:

<https://energyandcleanair.org/publication/china-permits-two-new-coal-power-plants-per-week-in-2022>

About the data

The changes in coal power project status analyzed for this briefing are based on the latest January 2023 update of Global Energy Monitor's [Global Coal Plant Tracker \(GCPT\)](#), with complementary data on retirements, including for units below 30 MW, compiled from the provincial Development and Reform Commission and National Development and Reform Commission in China. The GCPT is an online database that identifies and maps every known coal-fired generating unit and every new unit proposed since January 1, 2010 (30 MW and larger). The tracker uses footnoted wiki pages to document each plant and is updated biannually. GCPT is the most detailed dataset available on the global coal power fleet, and has provided biannual updates on coal-fired generating capacity since 2015.



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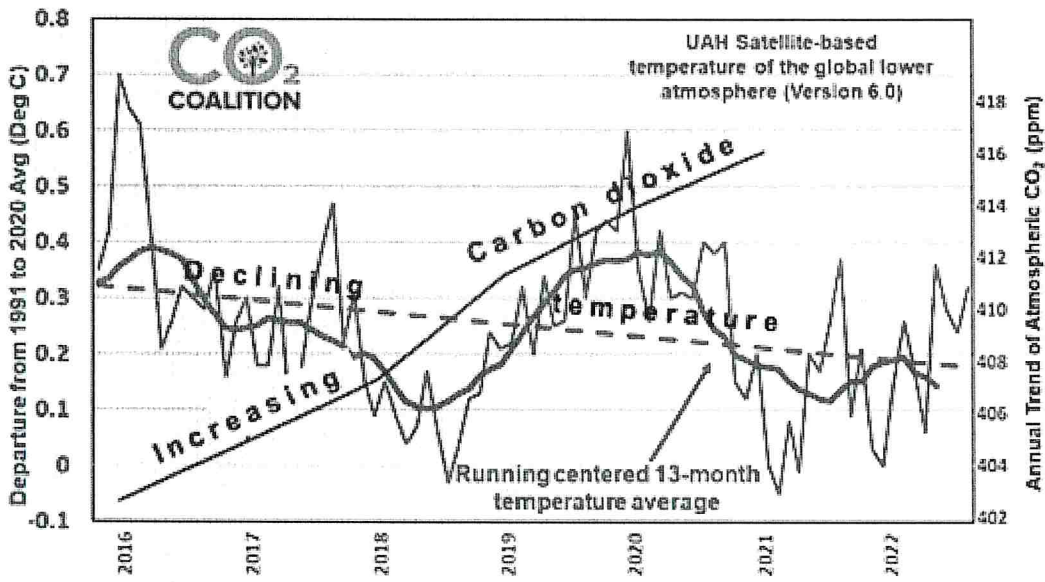
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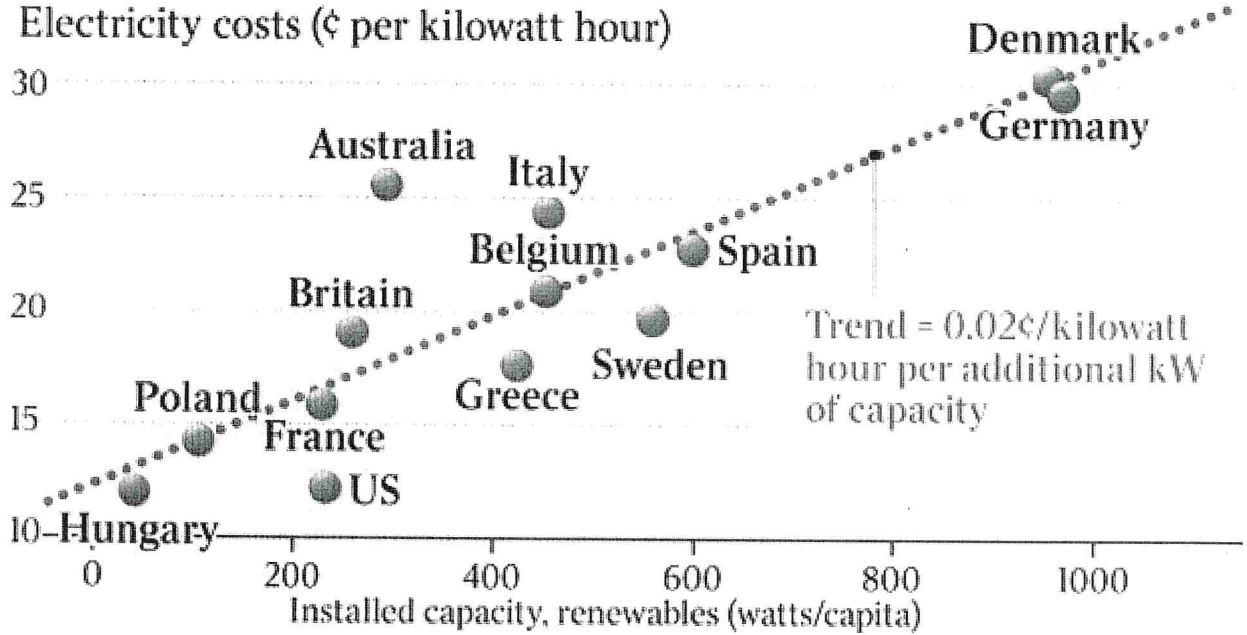
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OUT OF LINE ON RENEWABLES



My wife and I would like to introduce ourselves to your group. We are Bill and Colleen McKay, we live at 3220 Crystal drive Bellevue NE 68123. We purchased this property to have a place to live out our retirement that was close to family. We have seen some solar panels be placed on outbuildings across the country and found our situation lends to that. We have one service to the outbuilding and one meter, the house runs off a breaker in the outbuilding, and the outbuilding was situated correctly to receive sun all day. We started out research with OPPD's online information, it looked like OPPD was ready and excited to partner with us on a private solar plan. Net metering was a big question because it was more economical to rely on the grid for storage versus a battery system, as you, I am sure know. I reviewed online information and thought I had some understanding and called the support system at OPPD to go over my understanding. It was confirmed we would build power all day and by power when the sun is not out. At the end of the month we would pay for any shortfall in production VS use. If we over produce we would receive a credit of KWH to be transferred to the next month and at the end of the year any excess KWH we would get a check to resolve account for the year. We sought several contractors for estimate and settled on 3E and Allied Electrical for the install. Their plan installed a 15kw system that when net metering is used would carry over high KW production months to low KW production months and be real close to 100% use for the year.

The system went live Dec. 13 2022 and our first bill required we pay for 320 KWH for \$66.82 and Nov bill we paid for 960KWH for 72.79. This didn't add up to us and the bill has no meter readings. We called OPPD and spoke with Kevin and after a few calls it was understood because this was a partial month it was too hard to clearly bill and Jan. will be better. January bill came and we were asked to pay for 240 KWH after using 720kwh and crediting a net of 480kwh. Our system records vary accurately production and it recorded 825.76 KWH production in the billing period and if that is correct we used 1066kwh something greater than historic usage. So we question the rate we use and the way it is measured because for one the bill has no meter readings and we were told OPPD can't do that in the current system.

After this discussion with OPPD it was pointed out to us that net metering is calculated monthly not carried over and credited at the wholesale rate monthly. This changes are whole price recovery structure and I was able to find documentation to support this from OPPD. I should have been able to find this before the project and I take responsibility for that. I think OPPD should just explained the rate paid for net metering in the net metering plan online, instead they refer to a rate manual, this is not transparent.

I would like the Board to review a few items in the solar program and these are my suggestions.

1. Develop a billing system that counts and displays use, purchased, and generated KWH's
2. OPPD should spend more time training the call attendants on the details of a solar interconnectivity agreement and net metering.
3. When OPPD evaluates the solar plan that is part of the process, an evaluation should be shared with the potential customer on plan success probability. Perhaps a survey of expectations and understanding.
4. Clearly publish rates for usage and net credit rates and how this is billed on the main net metering page.

I have several other ideas to improve this experience with your solar partners. None matter if you truly do not want to be part of this trend I our community. Your monthly newsletter raves about solar but when the rubber meets the road it doesn't feel like it is anything you want to promote when the cameras stop rolling. Something I understand because you lose control of power

production, something you clearly take seriously. I just think a collective decision has to be made you support and indorse, or you have a system that will work, but not something you will support and it will show.

Colleen and I will be at this evenings meeting and I plan to address you. This is just a few more details for your review before the meeting.