

# Monitoring Report SD-2: Rates Finance Committee June 18, 2024

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### **Directional Rate Target**

## Comparison against the North Central Region:

- North Central Region, as defined by OPPD, is the region made up of the following seven states: Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and South Dakota.
- Comparison is done on a System Average Basis: Total revenue billed to retail customers divided by total kWh sold to retail customers. The result is measured in cents per kWh.
- OPPD obtains data from the Energy Information Administration's (EIA).

## Directional goal of 10% below the North Central Region average rates

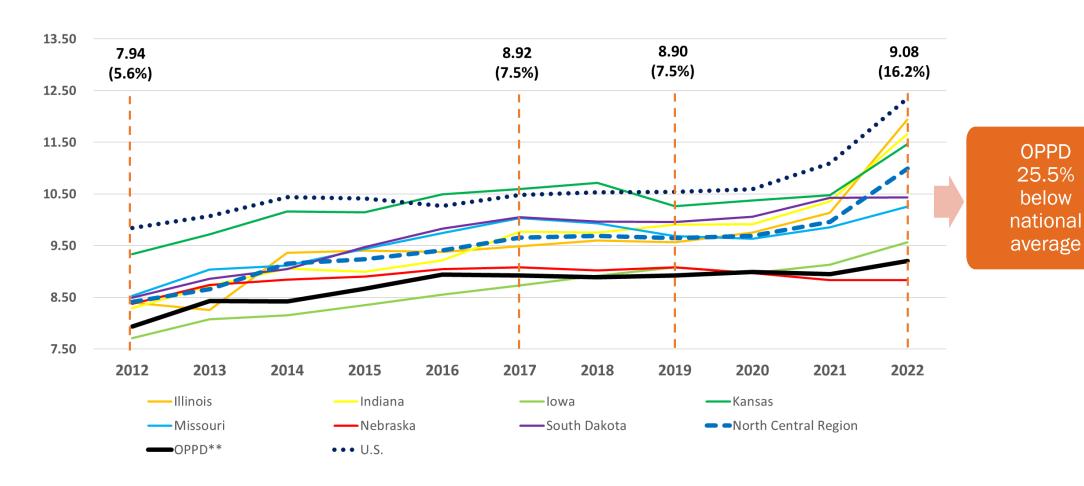
- Despite OPPD having a modest 2.5% general rate increase across all rate classes in 2022, OPPD trended further above the directional goal.
  - Specific to the region, States like Illinois and Indiana have retired significant capacity resources in recent years.\*
    - Illinois 11 plants with total capacity of about 2,895 MW
    - Indiana 8 plants with total capacity of about 2,712 MW
  - Kansas's largest electricity provider Evergy cited generation capacity and grid modernization in their latest rate case.
- The utility industry and region have experienced upward pressure from trends in rising load growth, increasing wholesale power supply costs, supply constraints, and escalating inflationary costs.



#### **Directional Rate Target**

#### North Central Region\* Average Rates All Rate Classes (¢/kWh)

Data from EIA - Electric Sales, Revenue, and Average Price



<sup>\*</sup> OPPD-defined region composed of: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and South Dakota

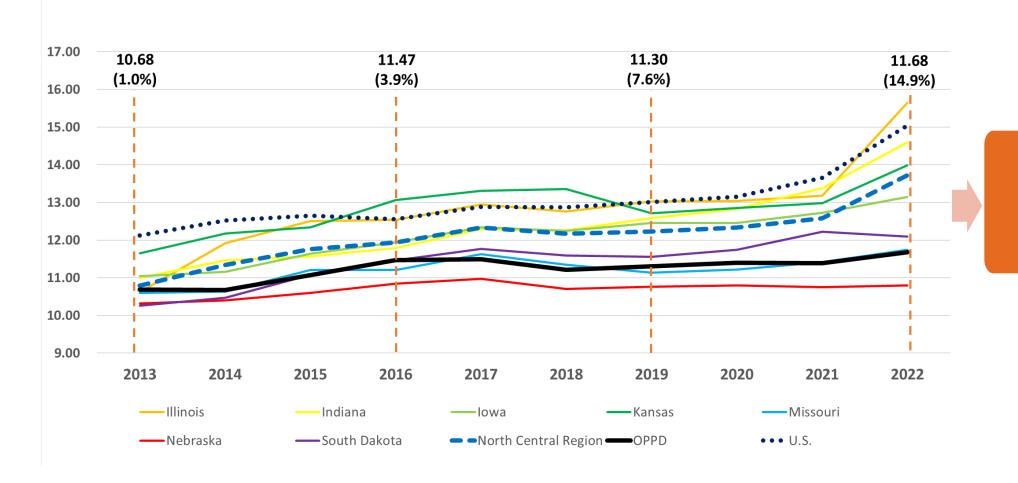




#### **Directional Rate Target**

#### North Central Region\* Average Residential Rates (¢/kWh)

Data from EIA - Electric Sales, Revenue, and Average Price



<sup>\*</sup> OPPD-defined region composed of: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and South Dakota



**OPPD** 

22.3% below

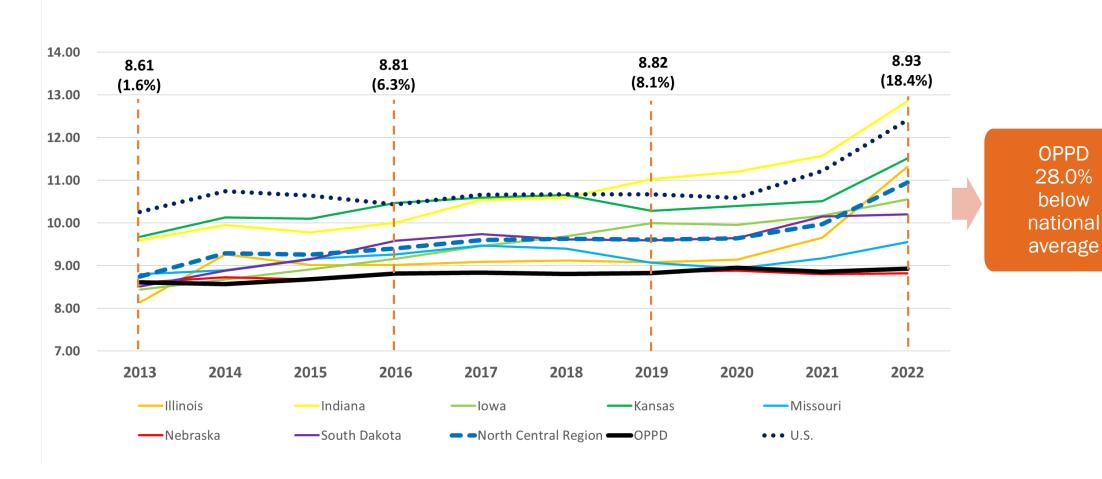
national

average

#### **Directional Rate Target**

#### North Central Region\* Average Commercial Rates (¢/kWh)

Data from EIA - Electric Sales, Revenue, and Average Price



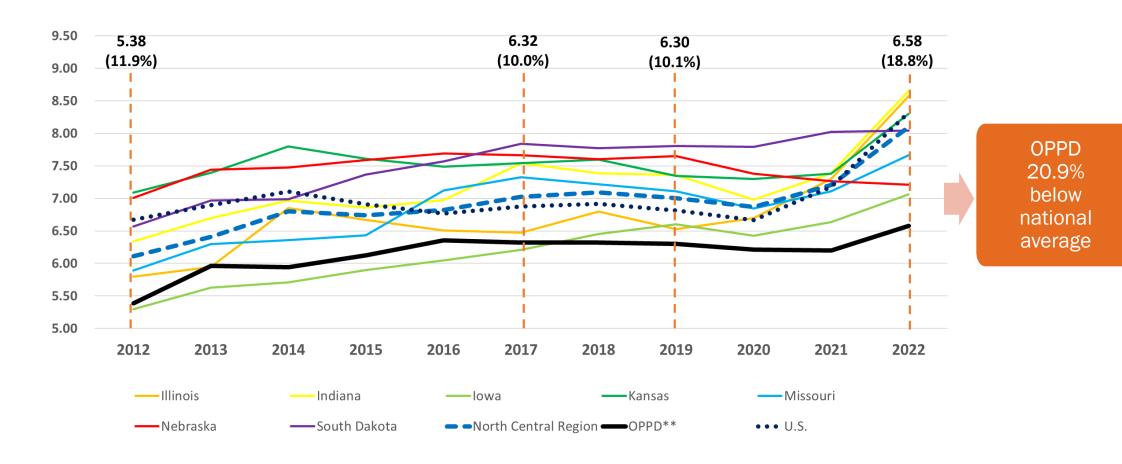
<sup>\*</sup> OPPD-defined region composed of: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and South Dakota



### **Directional Rate Target**

#### North Central Region\* Average Industrial Rates (¢/kWh)

Data from EIA - Electric Sales, Revenue, and Average Price



<sup>\*</sup> OPPD-defined region composed of: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and South Dakota





Fair, Reasonable, and Non-Discriminatory

- Maintain fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory rates as stated in Nebraska Revised Statute 70-655
  - Cost of Service Study (COSS) is completed to align rates with cost drivers.
    - Continually evaluating allocations based on changes within the organization and industry.
    - Costs are allocated across classes according to their unique usage characteristics.
  - The rate setting process is reviewed by an outside consultant (The Brattle Group).
- In 2023, OPPD continued the Rate Design Project (RDP).
  - Published Phase 1 Final Report on OPPD Community Connect.
  - Launched Phase 2 of project which aims to:
    - Develop multi-year vison leveraging AMI-based technology to offer customer solutions in alignment with rate principles established in Phase 1 of the RDP. This effort will include:
      - Near-term and long-term rate design considerations as we transform over the next several years.
      - Development of alternative rates with focus on customer outreach, education, alignment with policy objectives and ability to support the overall investments and revenue requirement.



### **Cost Assignment Across and Within Classes**

- Equitably assign costs across and within all customer classes.
  - Equitable assignment of costs within rate classes is dependent on rate structure, metering technology, and customer homogeneity.
  - 2024 Rate Action aligned cost recovery to the COSS in support of fair, reasonable, and non-discriminatory rate recovery principles.

	Industrial	Commercial	Residential
Customer Costs*			
Energy Costs			
Demand Costs*		Partial	Partial

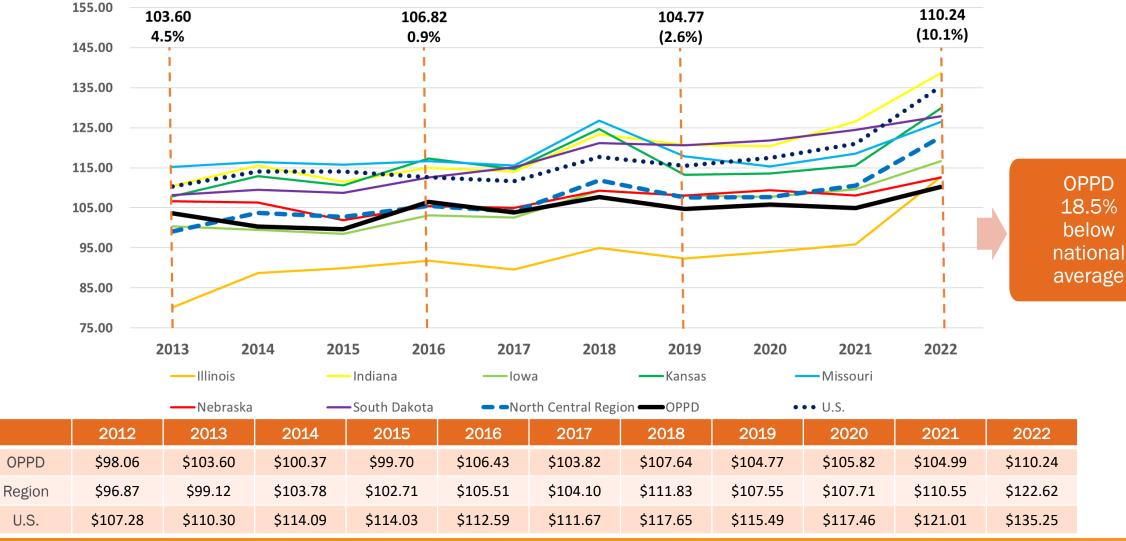
<sup>\*</sup>Service charge recovers a portion of the customer and distribution related costs for small commercial and residential rate classes



#### North Central Region\* Average Residential Bill (\$/Month)

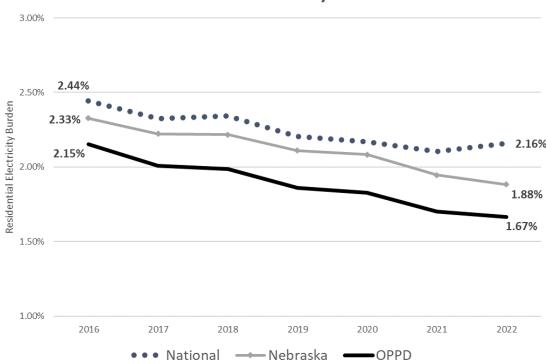
Data from EIA - Electric Sales, Revenue, and Average Price

#### **Affordability Indicators**



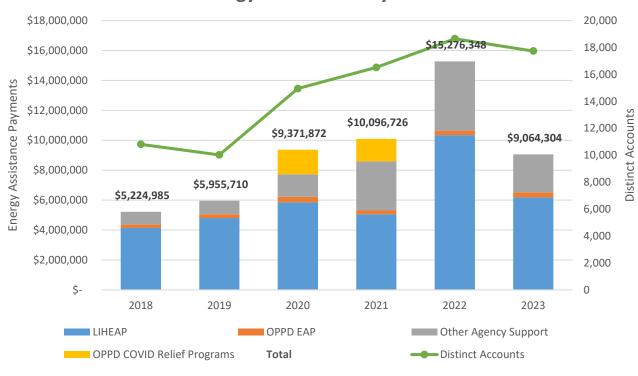
### **Affordability Indicators**

#### **Residential Electricity Burden**



Median Household Income Data from US Census, ACS-5Y, Electricity Data from EIA Annual Electric Utility Data

#### **Energy Assistance Payments**



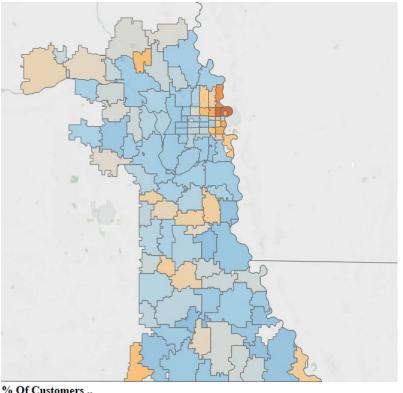
- 41% decrease in assistance funding from 2022
- Energy assistance funding has returned to pre-pandemic levels
- Increase in assistance funding during pandemic helped mitigate the impact on arrears and affordability for income constrained customers



### **Monitor Affordability Indicators - 2022**

- Average Electricity Burden varies
  throughout our service territory and is
  also impacted by the population within
  a zip code, heating source, and the
  efficiency of the premise
- Individual customer energy burdens can be above or below the zip code average
- A household with 6% or greater energy burden is considered to be a high energy burden household\*
- Customer with 3+ disconnect notices is one indicator of high electricity burden

% Of Customers with 3+ Disconnect Notices

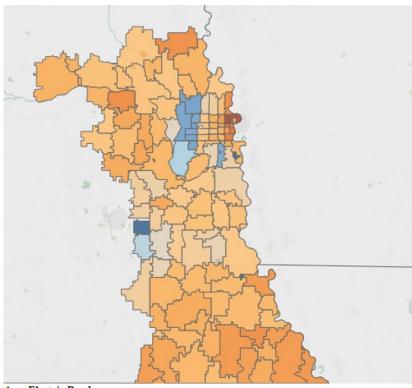




#### 3+ Disconnect Notices

- 28028 customers had 3+ disconnect notices in 2022
- The average electricity burden of customers with 3+ disconnect notices was 7.97%

#### Electric Burden by Zip Code



## Avg. Electric Burd..

#### Electricity Burden:

- For customers with at least 12 month of billing history, 2022 data.
- Does not include taxes or adjustments
- 2022 average 1.67%



### **Flexibility and Options**

## Offer flexibility and options

- The following options exist to increase flexibility and options for interested and eligible customers.
- OPPD is continuously working toward future rate, product, and service offerings to meet the needs of customers.

Residential	General Service		
Heat Pump	261M	Standby Service*	
Private Outdoor Lighting	Streetlights	Curtailable*	
Cogeneration and Small Power*	Cogeneration and Small Power*	Time of Use*	
Surge Guard*	Surge Guard*	Green Sponsorship*	
Net Metering*	Net Metering*	Supplemental Capacity*	
Community Solar*	Community Solar*	Primary Service Discount*	



<sup>\*</sup> Denotes Rider

### **Cost of Energy When Used**

- Pursue rate process and structure changes to reflect the cost of energy when it is used:
  - Residential and Small Commercial Rates include a seasonal energy charge:
    - Summer being June through September
    - Non-Summer being October through May
  - Fuel and Purchase Power Adjustment is calculated using seasonal energy prices reflecting the cost of the energy when it is expected to be used.
  - In Large Power High-voltage Transmission Level Market Energy (261M Rate) energy is priced hourly at the SPP market nodal price.
  - Partnered with Product Development and Marketing team to refresh curtailment offerings to provide efficient investment price signals to encourage participation.
  - OPPD will continue to evaluate more advanced rate structures as AMI and other technologies are monitored and implemented.



### **Simple and Easy to Understand**

- Establish effective and engaging broad communication with customers
  - OPPD Rates remain lower than regional and national averages
- Ensure targeted and specific messaging for individual rate classes and customers using direct messaging and/or conversations about specific rate increase impacts
  - Provided customers more detailed explanations of the drivers of the rate increase
  - Provided customers an opportunity to have conversations with OPPD
    - Explored options through programs and offerings to better serve our customers
- Additionally, the Rate Fundamentals Report was published on OPPD.com in Fall 2023, which serves to provide foundational guidance to stakeholders regarding the rate setting process.



## Recommendation

• The Finance Committee has reviewed and accepted this Monitoring Report for SD-2 and recommends that the Board find OPPD to be sufficiently in compliance with Board Policy SD-2.



## Any reflections on

what has been accomplished, challenges and/or strategic implications?

