



OPPD BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ALL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2026

The regular committee meetings of the Board of Directors of the Omaha Public Power District (“OPPD” or “District”) were held in person, at OPPD’s administrative offices, 1919 Aksarben Dr, Omaha, NE, with public accessibility both in person and via WebEx audio and video conference on Tuesday, April 14, 2026. The meeting opened at 10:00 a.m.

Present in person were A. E. Bogner, M. J. Cavanaugh, S. E. Howard, J. L. Hudson, C. C. Moody, M. G. Spurgeon and E. H. Williams. Also present in person were Messrs. S. M. Bruckner and T. Thalken of the Fraser Stryker law firm, General Counsel for the District. Chair M. R. Core presided and E. H. Lane, Sr. Board Operations Specialist, recorded the minutes.

The Executive Leadership Team members also joining in person included K. W. Brown, C. V. Fleener, T. R. O’Brien in place of G. M. Langel, M. DeSeure in place of S. M. Focht, T. D. McAreavey, J. F. Rainey, Interim VP, Human Capital, B. R. Underwood, and T. R. Via.

Committee Agenda Item 1: Board Chair Opening Statement

Chair Core gave a brief opening statement, including an announcement regarding public notice of meeting, which was publicized by notifying the area news media¹; by publicizing same in the Omaha World Herald², OPPD Outlets newsletter, oppd.com and social media; by displaying such notice on the first level of OPPD administrative offices; and by emailing such notice to each of the District’s Directors on April 10, 2026.

Chair Core welcomed members of the public and gave an overview of the meeting agenda and reminders for using the WebEx audio and video conferencing platform. He informed the public that the Board will take public comment at the end of the All Committees meeting. The Board will

¹ News outlets that received OPPD Board meeting notification emails included: 1. KETV; 2. WOWT; 3. KMTV; 4. KPTM; 5. Telemundo Nebraska; 6. Nebraska Public Media (NET-TV); 7. NewsChannel Nebraska; 8. KFAB; 9. KOIL 1290 AM; 10. KIOS 91.5 FM – Nebraska Public Radio (Omaha); 11. Radio Lobo – 97.7 FM (Omaha); 12. Boomer Blair 97.3 FM (Blair); 13. KHUB 1340 AM/KFMT 101.5 FM (Fremont); 14. Sunny 101.3 FM (Falls City); 15. Omaha World Herald; 16. Washington County Enterprise & Blair Pilot Tribune; 17. Lincoln Journal Star; 18. Omaha Daily Record; 19. Omaha Star; 20. Douglas County Post-Gazette; 21. Papillion Times; 22. Bellevue Leader; 23. Midlands Business Journal; 24. Ralston Recorder; 25. Sarpy Guide and News; 26. Pawnee Republican; 27. Tecumseh Chieftain; 28. Ashland Gazette; 29. Wahoo Newspaper; 30. Nebraska City News Press; 31. Cassgram (Cass County online news publication); and 32. Associated Press.

² Public notice of meeting was requested to be published in the print version of the *Omaha World Herald* newspaper on April 7, 2026, and in the online version from April 7 through April 14, 2026. The public notice was posted on nepublicnotices.com on April 7, 2026.

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also take public comments at the Board meeting on Thursday, April 16, 2026 which will be conducted in person at the Omaha Douglas Civic Center at 5:00 p.m. The public may attend in person or remotely via WebEx Events by going to oppd.com.

Chair Core noted all Board members were present in person. Also present were members of the OPPD executive leadership team and subject matter experts. Additionally, 16 members of the public and OPPD employees joined via WebEx.

Committee Agenda Item 2: Safety Briefing

J. Clark, Manager Protective Services, provided physical and psychological safety reminders.

Committee Agenda Item 3: Committee Briefings

Risk Committee Chair Report

Director Bogner reported the Governance Committee met on March 19 via Teams videoconference. A copy of the agenda for that meeting was made available in the All Committee meeting materials for the Board to review. The committee discussed: (i) Safety Briefing; (ii) Prior Quarter Pre-Committee Action Items; (iii) Annual Committee Charter Review; (iv) ERM Risk Dashboard; (v) Monitoring Impacts of Iran Conflict; (vi) 2026 Audit Update; (vii) 2025 Annual Report Review; (viii) Forvis-Mazars Annual Audit & Credit Agreement Compliance; (ix) Board Work Plan – Risk Committee Items; and (x) Summary of Committee Direction.

Governance Committee Chair Report

Director Spurgeon reported the Governance Committee met on April 7, via Teams videoconference. A copy of the agenda for that meeting was made available in the All Committee meeting materials for the Board to review. The committee discussed: (i) Safety Briefing; (ii) VP, Human Capital Appointment and Compensation Approval; (iii) Prior Month Pre-Committee Action Items; (iv) Ethics Reporting; (v) Governance and Board Policy Review [BL-1A, BL-5, BL-6, BL-7]; (vi) Legislative Update; (vii) Merit and Market Compensation; (viii) Governance Committee Planning Calendar; (ix) Board Work Plan – Governance items; (x) Summary of Meeting; and (xi) Open Discussion.

Governance Committee items on the Board work plan were reviewed.

Supporting Data

Agenda

Board Work Plan

System Management & Nuclear Oversight Committee Chair Report

Director Williams reported the System Management & Nuclear Oversight Committee met on March 30, in person and via WebEx videoconference. A copy of the agenda for the meeting was made available in the All Committee meeting materials for the Board to review. The committee discussed: (i) Safety Briefing; (ii) Prior Month Pre-Committee Action Items; (iii) Real Property and Land Management; (iv) Nuclear Decommissioning Financial Update; (v) Major Projects Update; (vi) SD-4 Reliability Monitoring Report; (vii) Winter Storm Fern; (viii) Nebraska City Generation Station – Dust Collector; (ix) Integrated System Plan Update; (x) Local Electric Grid Planning per Resolution 6744; (xi) Board Work Plan – Systems Committee Items; (xii) Summary of Meeting; and (xiii) Open Discussion.

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System Management and Nuclear Oversight Committee items on the Board Work Plan were reviewed.

Supporting Data

Agenda

Board Work Plan

Customer and Public Engagement Committee Chair Report

Director Howard reported the Customer and Public Engagement Committee met on March 9, in person and via WebEx videoconference. A copy of the agenda for that meeting was made available in the All Committee meeting materials for the Board to review. The committee discussed: (i) Safety Briefing; (ii) Prior Month Pre-Committee Action Items; (iii) Legislative Update; (iv) SD-5: Customer Satisfaction Monitoring Report; (v) Integrated System Plan – Stakeholder Engagement Update; (vi) Board Work Plan; (vii) Summary of Meeting; and (viii) Open Discussion.

Customer and Public Engagement Committee items on the Board Work Plan were reviewed.

Supporting Data

Agenda

Board Work Plan

Finance Committee Chair Report

Director Moody reported the Finance Committee met on April 3, in person and via WebEx videoconference. A copy of the agenda for that meeting was made available in the All Committee meeting materials for the Board to review. The committee discussed: (i) Safety Briefing; (ii) Prior Month Pre-Committee Action Items; (iii) Local Electric Grid Planning per Resolution No. 6744; (iv) Biennial Report on Rates Updates; (v) Winter Storm Fern; (vi) 2026 Debt Issuance Authorization; (vii) Retirement Plan Annual Report; (viii) 401(k) and 457 Retirement Savings Plan Annual Report Board Work Plan – Finance Committee Items; (ix) Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trusts Annual Report; (x) SD-14: Retirement Plan Funding Monitoring Report; (xi) SD-2: Rates Discussion; (xii) Board Work Plan – Finance Committee Items; (xiii) Summary of Meeting; and (xiv) Finance Pre-Committee Strategic Discussion.

Finance Committee items on the Board Work Plan were reviewed.

Committee Agenda Item 4: Financial Stewardship

Biennial Report on Rates Update

B. M. Hoyle, Director Financial Planning and Analysis, provided the following report for board clarity on the upcoming Pricing & Rates workplan including key timelines and required approvals.

- a. Provides the Board with a transparent and forward-looking view of upcoming pricing and rates initiatives.
- b. Provides the Board with a predictable two-year cycle for planning, analysis and board approval.
- c. Ensures the board has clear visibility into timing, scopes, and decision milestones.

Supporting Documents

Datasheet

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2026 Debt Issuance Authorization

J. W. Thurber, Director, Treasury and Financial Operations provided the following report to cto ensure full board review, discussion and approval of the 2026-2027 Series Electric System Revenue Bonds.

- a. The District continually monitors its liquidity/cash needs to assure that adequate funds are available to manage the District's operations. From time to time, Management concludes that it is in the best interests of the District to use cash accumulated from District operations or other liquidity resources for various purposes, given then-existing market conditions or timing imperatives, including, without limitation, to pay for capital improvements to the District's electric system, refunding existing higher yielding debt, or to fund unexpected operating expenditures. Should the District elect to use its cash or other liquidity facilities for any such purpose, it is in the best interests of the District that it have the ability to act promptly, given favorable market conditions, to issue new debt to replenish liquidity by reimbursing previously incurred capital expenditures, refund existing higher yielding debt, or by funding anticipated capital expenditures and related transaction costs. The District's Financial Advisor, Barclays Capital Inc., has indicated that issuing new debt to reimburse or to fund capital purposes or to refund existing higher yielding debt is a reasonable strategy to replenish the District's liquidity reserves and to capitalize on market interest rates.
- b. Management may issue one or more new series of bonds to be known as the 2026 or 2027 Series Electric System Revenue Bonds ("Authorized Bonds") with such additional letter designations as deemed appropriate at the time of issuance. The Authorized Bonds will be traditional tax-exempt bonds.
- c. It is advisable for the Board of Directors to authorize the President and Chief Executive Officer or the Vice President and Chief Financial Officer to complete the sale of up to \$1.4 billion of Authorized Bonds upon acceptable market interest rates and financing terms. This would be accomplished by a completed and executed Pricing Certificate(s) accompanied with written opinion(s) of the District's Financial Advisor which would certify to the Board that the terms of the debt reflect rates competitive with current market conditions. Under these conditions, authorization to initiate and conclude a negotiated sale of Authorized Bonds would extend to and include March 31, 2027.
- d. The Board of Directors will receive quarterly updates on the status of Authorized Bonds. Final pricing of a series of Authorized Bonds will be presented at the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting immediately following the execution of the Bond Purchase Agreement.

Requesting Board authorization to sell up to \$1.4 billion of Authorized Bonds to issue new debt upon acceptable market conditions.

The Board was scheduled to vote on this matter at the April 16 board meeting.

Supporting Documents

Datasheet

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Retirement Plan Annual Report

J. W. Thurber, Director, Treasury and Financial Operations, and J. Boucek, Sr. Vice President, Segal Marco Advisors, provided the following report on the Retirement Plan Fund and Individual Manager Performance for 2025.

- a. The market value of the Retirement Plan Fund was \$1.40 billion on December 31, 2025. This compares to the market value of \$1.26 billion on December 31, 2024. During the year, the benefit payment and expenses exceeded the total contribution by \$30.3 million. The investment gains net of fees was \$167.5 million.
- b. The preliminary asset allocation at year-end was 55.6% equity, 29.6% fixed income securities and 14.8% alternative assets (private real estate and private debt), which is within the Investment Policy Guidelines approved by the Board.
- c. A summary of the 2025 Retirement Plan Investment Manager's performance will be presented by the District's consultant, Mr. Jeff Boucek, Vice President and Director of Public Fund Consulting, of Segal Marco.

Supporting Documents

Datasheet

Summary of Investment Manager Performance

401(k) and 457 Retirement Savings Plan Annual Report

T. R. Vasquez, Supervisor, Financial Operations, provided the following report on fund options for OPPD's 401(k) and 457 Retirement Savings Plans for 2025.

- a. The District offers two retirement savings plans, 401(k) and 457, that provide the ability for employees to save current earnings for retirement. The investment options for the 401(k) and 457 Plans are monitored by a committee of employees that includes members of the Treasury & Financial Operations division and Human Capital division. The investment options are identical in the 401(k) and 457 Plans.
- b. The market value for OPPD's 401(k) and 457 Retirement Savings Plans was \$782.3 million as of December 31, 2025. During the year, employee contributions totaled \$16.0 million and OPPD's contributions totaled \$6.6 million in both plans.
- c. During 2025, the Wellington CIF II Mid Cap Opportunities S1 fund was removed due to poor performance with its funds transferred to the Kayne Anderson Rudnick Mid Cap Core CIT Class 2 fund.
- d. A summary listing investment options, balances, and annual fund performance for the period ending December 31, 2025, is attached.

Supporting Documents

Datasheet

Summary of Fund Options and Performance

Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trusts Annual Report

J. Anderson, Manager, Payroll and Tax, provided the following report on the OPEB Trust Performance for 2025.

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- a. The District has established two Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trusts to fund the liability of medical and life insurance benefits for retired employees and their spouses. The first trust is designated for employees hired prior to 2008 (Pre-2008 OPEB Trust Fund). The second trust is designated for employees hired after December 31, 2007 (Post-2007 OPEB Trust Fund). The investments for the two OPEB Trust Funds are monitored by an investment committee (Committee) comprised of the Vice Presidents of Financial Services and Human Capital and the Directors of Treasury and Financial Operations, Corporate Accounting and Total Rewards.
- b. The market value of the Pre-2008 OPEB Trust Fund equaled \$240.9 million as of December 31, 2025, compared to \$207.3 million as of December 31, 2024. The District's contributions totaled \$21.8 million, retiree contributions were \$4.4 million and benefit payments along with associated fees were \$27.0 million for 2025. The Pre-2008 OPEB Trust Fund was primarily invested in a global equity fund, a real return fund, a private real estate fund and a core fixed income fund. The asset allocation at year-end was 55.9% equity, 18.4% fixed income, 18.3% real return and 7.4% private real estate, which is within the Investment Policy guidelines. The Fund had a 17.1% return for 2025.
- c. The market value of the Post-2007 OPEB Trust Fund equaled \$14.0 million as of December 31, 2025, compared to \$11.3 million as of December 31, 2024. The District's contributions totaled \$1.6 million in 2025. Benefit payments along with associated fees totaled \$186,935. There were no retiree contributions during 2025. The Post-2007 OPEB Trust Fund was primarily invested in a core bond fixed income fund and a global equity index fund. The asset allocation at year-end was 70.4% fixed income and 29.6% equity which is within the Investment Policy guidelines. The Fund had a 11.1% return for 2025.
- d. A summary listing investment balances and annual fund performance for the period ending December 31, 2025, is attached.

Supporting Documents

Datasheet

Investment Balance Summary

Committee Agenda Item 5: Oversight and Monitoring

SD-14: Retirement Plan Funding Monitoring Report

J. W. Thurber, Director, Treasury and Financial Operations, presented the following report to ensure full Board review, discussion and acceptance of SD-14: Retirement Plan Funding monitoring report.

- a. The first set of Board policies was approved by the Board on July 16, 2015. A second set of Board policies was approved by the Board on October 15, 2015.
- b. Each policy was evaluated and assigned to the appropriate Board Committee for oversight of the monitoring process.
- c. The Finance Committee is responsible for evaluating Board Policy SD-14: Retirement Plan Funding Monitoring Report on an annual basis.

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- d. The Finance Committee has reviewed the SD-14: Retirement Plan Funding Monitoring Report and is recommending that OPPD be found to be sufficiently in compliance with the policy as stated.

Requesting Board of Directors approval of the 2025 monitoring report.

The Board was scheduled to vote on this matter at the April 16 board meeting.

Supporting Data

Datasheet

Monitoring Report

Resolution

SD-5: Customer Satisfaction Monitoring Report

K. M. Thomas, Director, Corporate Marketing and Communications, presented the following report to ensure full Board review, discussion and acceptance of SD-5: Customer Satisfaction Monitoring Report

- a. The first set of Board policies was approved by the Board on July 16, 2015. A second set of Board policies was approved by the Board on October 15, 2015.
- b. Each policy was evaluated and assigned to the appropriate Board Committee for oversight of the monitoring process.
- c. The Customer and Public Engagement Committee is responsible for evaluating Board Policy SD-5: Customer Satisfaction.
- d. The Customer and Public Engagement Committee has reviewed the SD-5: Customer Satisfaction Monitoring Report and is recommending that OPPD be found to be sufficiently in compliance with the policy as stated.

Requesting Board of Directors approval of the 2025 monitoring report.

The Board was scheduled to vote on this matter at the April 16 board meeting.

Supporting Data

Datasheet

Monitoring Report

Resolution

Legislative and Regulatory Update

R. K. Scott, Government Affairs Specialist, provided the following report to update the Board of Directors on 2026 state and federal legislative matters, local government and regulatory matters.

- a. Nebraska's 109th Legislature 2nd session began on January 7, 2026 and is expected to end on April 17, 2026.
- b. The 119th Congress began on January 3, 2025 and is expected to end January 3, 2027.

Supporting Data

Datasheet

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SD-4 Reliability Monitoring Report

C. J. Zavadil, Director, Asset Management, presented the following report to ensure full Board review, discussion and acceptance of SD-4: Reliability Monitoring Report.

- a. The first set of Board policies was approved by the Board on July 16, 2015. A second set of Board policies was approved by the Board on October 15, 2015. The Board subsequently updated SD-4: Reliability on November 16, 2023.
- b. Each policy was evaluated and assigned to the appropriate Board Committee for oversight of the monitoring process.
- c. The System Management and Nuclear Oversight Committee is responsible for evaluating Board Policy SD-4: Reliability.
- d. The System Management and Nuclear Oversight Committee has reviewed the SD-4: Reliability Monitoring Report and finds that OPPD is taking reasonable and appropriate measures to comply with the policy.

Requesting Board of Directors approval of the 2025 monitoring report.

The Board was scheduled to vote on this matter at the April 16 board meeting.

Supporting Data

Datasheet

Monitoring Report

Resolution

RFP 6235 – Resources for Underground Residential and Commercial Developments

B. D. Kramer, Sr. Director, Utility Operations, presented the following report to ensure full board review and discussion of the supplemental labor contract for construction services related to installation of new underground Residential and Commercial Developments.

- a. Contract provides additional construction labor to support the District's current resources.
- b. The RFP and bidder responses were based on an expected number of units, multiplied by the bidder's unit rate, to compare each bidder's costs. Total annual costs will vary based on the actual volume of work performed.
- c. Two (2) proposals were received in response to RFP 6235. One (1) proposal was legally responsive. Two (2) proposals were technically responsive.
- d. Contract offers a three (3) year initial term with the option to renew three (3) additional one (1) year terms based on Management's assessment of the contractor's performance.
- e. The Nielsen Construction proposal, evaluated as the sum of \$2,390,413.00 as described in item (b) above, is recommended as the lowest and best bid.
- f. Work associated with this contract will begin July 2026.

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Requesting authorization by the Board to award a labor-only contract to Nielsen Construction for an initial term of three (3) years, with an option to renew up to three (3) additional one (1) year contract terms, for the procurement of construction services related to the installation of underground Residential and Commercial Developments.

The Board was scheduled to vote on this matter at the April 16 board meeting.

Supporting Data

Datasheet

Analysis of Proposals

Tabulation of Bids

Legal Opinion

Resolution

Committee Agenda Item 6: Governance and Board Matters

Vice President, Human Capital Appointment and Compensation Approval

CEO Fernandez presented the following report to seek Board approval of the appointment and compensation of Joni Wheeler as Vice President, Human Capital.

- a. In accordance with board policy, *BL-1A: Board – OPPD Officer Relationship*, upon recommendation of the CEO, the Board is responsible for the appointment and compensation approval of OPPD officers.
- b. Ms. Wheeler has more than 30 years' experience transforming organizational culture, delivering business results, and developing high-performing teams. Her most recent position has been Executive Vice President, Strategic Talent and Enterprise Shared Services at Blue Cross Blue Shield Nebraska. Ms. Wheeler studied at the University of Nebraska Lincoln. Ms. Wheeler has attended numerous Leadership Training Programs through First Data Corporation and Blue Cross Blue Shield Nebraska.
- c. Based on Ms. Wheeler's qualifications, experience, and responsibilities, the CEO recommends Ms. Wheeler's appointment and compensation as outlined in Exhibit A.

Requesting Board of Directors approval of the appointment and compensation of Joni Wheeler as Vice President, Human Capital.

The Board was scheduled to vote on this matter at the April 16, 2026 board meeting

Supporting Data

Datasheet

Exhibit A – Finance Committee Charter – Clean and Redline

Exhibit B – Governance Committee Charter – Clean and Redline

Exhibit C – Risk Committee Charter – Clean and Redline

Exhibit D – SMNO Committee Charter – Clean and Redline

Exhibit E – OPPD Board Policies Proposed Updates – Clean and Redline

Resolution

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Standing Committee Annual Charter Reviews and Non-Substantive Board Policy Updates

M. R. DeSeure, Director, Corporate Audit, presented the following report to ensure full Board review, discussion and acceptance of the revisions to the OPPD Board of Directors Standing Committee Charters and non-substantive updates to the Board Policies.

- a. The OPPD Board of Directors has adopted charters for each of its standing committees that convey how each committee is structured and operates, its duties and responsibilities and its expectations for annual review and evaluation.
- b. The Customer and Public Engagement, Finance, Governance, Risk, and System Management and Nuclear Oversight standing committees have completed the annual review of their charters.
- c. The Finance, Governance, Risk and System Management and Nuclear Oversight Standing Committees recommend for Board approval the changes outlined in the charters attached as Exhibits A through D, and the updates to the District's Board Policies to reflect the proposed committee charters changes, attached as Exhibit E.

Requesting Board of Directors approval of the standing committee charter revisions and updates to the Board Policies, as shown in the attached Exhibits A through E.

The Board was scheduled to vote on this matter at the April 16, 2026 board meeting

Supporting Data

Datasheet

Exhibit A

Resolution

Confirmation of Board Meeting Agenda

The Board members reviewed the agenda for the Board meeting on Thursday, April 16, 2026. The meeting will be conducted in person at the Omaha Douglas Civic Center, 2nd Floor Legislative Chamber, at 5:00 p.m. The public may attend in person or remotely via WebEx audio and video conference.

Committee Agenda Item 7: Opportunity for Public Comment on Items of District Business

Chair Core asked for comments from the public in attendance on items of District business. There was one comment.

S. Williams, Rosewood Dr., Lincoln, provided comments on rates, reliability and solar generation.

Chair Core asked for comments from members of the public on WebEx. There were two comments.

David Corbin, 1002 N. 49th St, provided comments on a North Omaha health study and the legislative update.

John Pollack, 1412 N. 35th Street, Omaha, provided comments on tree trimming prioritization and provided a weather update.

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:32 p.m.

DocuSigned by:
Cliff Fleener
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C. V. Fleener
Vice President – Sustainability and
Environmental Affairs

DocuSigned by:
Erin H. Lane
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E. H. Lane
Sr. Board Operations Specialist

To: OPPD Board of Directors & Executive Leadership Team

My name is Scott Williams, I live in Lincoln on Rosewood Drive, though I still work here in Omaha. I work in the energy industry, and while my comments are informed by my professional experience, I am not speaking on behalf of my employer. Specifically, I work day-to-day with solar installers, contractors, builders and developers. As a matter of fact, I came to this meeting directly from a rooftop site visit for new solar arrays being built next week.

Recently, my work has also been with housing developers who are adding solar to their projects. I see this as a significant area of growth in the sector. It is those projects in particular that inform my comments today, though I am not speaking on behalf of any clients, company, organization, or anyone other than myself.

My comments are particularly related to two issues that have already been discussed during today's meeting; rates, and reliability.

The financial benefits of distributed solar generation are clear; the vast majority of rate-payers could buy kilowatt-hours from a solar array on their roof for less than it costs the District to generate remotely and move energy through the transmission and distribution system. It's no exaggeration to say that solar energy is among the least expensive forms of energy ever available to humanity. In the 21st century, the cheapest way to get electricity is to point a sheet of glass at the Sun.

That is exactly why developers are looking to add solar arrays to development projects. There are clear financial benefits to the rate-payer. There are also significant benefits to the utility; blending the least expensive form of energy into the District's generation portfolio lowers the overall cost for all rate-payers across the District. Distributed generation can increase grid utilization, getting more value out of the wires we already have. On-site generation does not require T&D, which can help delay or defer infrastructure upgrade costs.

Solar power is fundamentally different from other forms of generation. Once installed, solar arrays have near zero operating expenses. The costs are all upfront capital expenses. The development timeline of such projects is measured in months, and the life of the project is measured in decades.

As you consider rate changes, I would encourage you to keep in mind investments that have already been made, which are already creating broad benefits to the District. Rate changes that negatively impact the viability of projects which are already online and producing power could be a strong disincentive towards future investments.

Distributed energy resources including solar and battery energy storage are well aligned with OPPD's mission "to provide affordable, reliable, and environmentally sensitive energy services to its customer-owners." Beyond that, aggregated distributed energy resources, as described by President Fernandez, can "benefit customers as individuals, and benefit customers in aggregate as rate-payers of the public power district."

The overall benefits are substantially increased when adding battery energy storage to distributed generation. The question becomes how to maximize the benefits, at the most affordable cost, while ensuring the benefits are distributed equitably.

Distributed battery storage has obvious benefits in terms of reliability. During a Major Event Day, if a branch falls on a distribution line, customers' power goes out. Unless... they have on-site battery storage, in which case their lights won't even flicker, and they probably wouldn't even notice the interruption.

How much that is "worth" to individual rate-payers can vary greatly. Medical oxygen could mean uninterrupted power is essentially priceless. If you've invested in a half cow in your deep freeze, a power outage that stretches past a few hours could quickly mean thousands of dollars of losses, not to mention the enormous hassle of dealing with spoiled food.

Beyond the reliability benefits to individuals, every minute that there is NOT a grid service interruption, these distributed batteries can provide significant benefit to the district. Through aggregation via a DERMS platform, batteries can be dispatched to reduce peak demand, right when electricity is at its most expensive.

The advantage of utility-scale deployments is the economics of scale, which can reduce costs. The advantage of distributed energy resources is in utilizing existing infrastructure. Every electrical service is a potential point of interconnection. In most cases, much of the required switchgear is no longer necessary, thus lowering cost.

Additionally, the rate of deployment is much faster than utility scale development. Timelines are measured not in years, but months. If we started the process of considering a solar array on the roof of this building today, mid-April, there are no technical barriers to having that generation online before the end of June.

As of now, there are no significant ways for these potential benefits to encourage solar builders to add batteries to projects and create those benefits for the District.

We as an industry are ready and willing to engage in conversations about opportunities to create additional benefits, for the individual rate-payers, and also for the District. Battery energy storage in particular has the opportunity to provide much more benefits that are presently being realized.

I look forward to continuing the conversation, and am glad to answer any questions.
Thank you.