

# OPPD evaluating potential sources for solar generation

OPPD is making steady progress on its Power with Purpose (PwP) project – the district’s plan to add 400 to 600 megawatts of utility-scale solar and up to 600 MW of modernized natural gas backup to its generation portfolio.

During a hearing at the Nebraska Power Review Board’s meeting in Lincoln on Oct. 19, the PRB voted unanimously (4-0) to approve OPPD’s applications to build the two natural gas generating facilities for PwP.

As we announced here last month, these generating facilities are to be located at 168th Street and Fairview Road in Sarpy County, and near 120th Street and Military Road in northwest Omaha.

OPPD can use landscaping to minimize the sound and visual impact to those living and working nearby, and the district continues to dialogue with residents about such considerations.

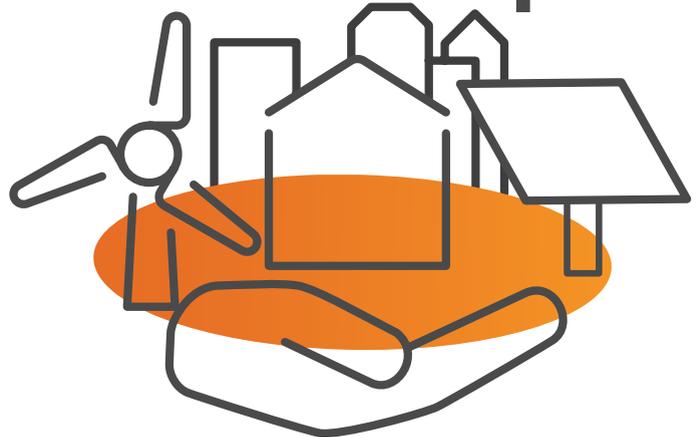
## Solar power sourcing

The process of securing solar power sources for PwP is complex, due in part to the project’s goal of maintaining the reliability and resiliency of the electric system.

OPPD released its solar request for proposals in November 2019 and received initial responses in late January of 2020. OPPD is seeking to purchase solar generation from several developers’ facilities. The developer is responsible for such things as site design and construction, land leases, permitting, and facility operations and maintenance.

Based on our analysis of 71 proposals across the state, the district has narrowed its focus to seven potential solar project developments in or near

## Power with Purpose



our 13-county service area, which we continue to evaluate.

These proposed projects are from six different renewable developers. OPPD will make no announcement until signed contracts are in place. OPPD’s goal is to do so by the end of 2020.

## PwP benefits/communication

Our Power with Purpose project will help move OPPD toward its goal of net-zero carbon production by 2050. (See the box below for a way to learn more about our Pathways to Decarbonization study.)

OPPD does not expect construction for this project to impact rates or the district’s commitment to no general rate increase through 2021.

OPPD continues to interact with our customers and other stakeholders about the PwP journey through [OPPDCommunityConnect.com](http://OPPDCommunityConnect.com), our public engagement platform. You can visit this site by scanning the QR code at right on your smartphone.



The district also will continue to educate and inform the public along the way through [OPPDTheWire.com](http://OPPDTheWire.com), social media posts, direct mailings, virtual educational workshops and online stakeholder meetings.



**Did you know OPPD aims to be a net-zero carbon utility by 2050?**  
Visit [OPPDCommunityConnect.com/decarb](http://OPPDCommunityConnect.com/decarb) to learn about the Pathways to Decarbonization study and offer ideas to shape a bright future.

## DECEMBER BOARD MEETINGS

**Committee:** Tuesday, Dec. 8 (see [oppd.com/BoardMeeting](http://oppd.com/BoardMeeting) for time and how meeting will be conducted). **Regular board meeting:** WEDNESDAY, Dec. 9, 4 p.m. (see [oppd.com/BoardMeeting](http://oppd.com/BoardMeeting) for how meeting will be conducted). Hearing-impaired call 531-226-3208, 72 hours prior to request an interpreter. Agendas posted and meetings viewable on [oppd.com](http://oppd.com).

# Outlets

## OUR MISSION

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





The pandemic has brought tough times for many customers across OPPD's 13-county service territory. The resulting financial hardships have led to increasing requests for help with paying utility bills.

In recent years, the OPPD Energy Assistance Program (EAP) has helped more than 900 households annually. This year, we have seen a 38% increase in the need for energy assistance, and have distributed more than \$290,000 to date.

This assistance program would not be possible without the generous donations of our customers, community partners and employees throughout the year.

### Take part in Month of Giving

As part of OPPD's annual Month of Giving in November, we are encouraging our employees and customers to donate to the EAP. This gives us all an opportunity to help keep the power on for others in our community.

Note that 100% of EAP donations go to help those in need.

### How can I help?

Go to [oppd.com/Donate](http://oppd.com/Donate) to make your donation and learn more about ways you can help. There are several ways to donate:

- **Donate** now via a credit card at [dollarenergy.org/donations/oppd/](http://dollarenergy.org/donations/oppd/)
- **Use** the Energy Assistance Pledge form at [oppd.com/Pledge](http://oppd.com/Pledge) to add a monthly or one-time donation to your next OPPD billing statement.
- **Check** the EAP donation box on your next OPPD billing statement.
- **Give** by phone by calling OPPD Customer Service at 402-536-4131 or 877-536-4131 outside the metro area.

### How can I get help?

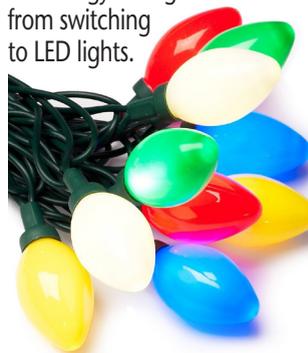
For information on how to apply for assistance, please go to [oppd.com/EAP](http://oppd.com/EAP).

## Efficient holiday lighting can lessen energy usage

It's time to unpack the holiday decorations, and also a good time to evaluate whether it's time to switch to more energy-efficient LED styles.

These types of lights use less energy, run at a cooler temperature (reducing fire hazards) and last longer than incandescent models.

The chart on the right shows the energy savings that result from switching to LED lights.



### INCANDESCENT LIGHTS

#### C7, C9 (large bulbs)

Lights per string: 25    Watts per string: 175  
 Hours of use/day: 6    Number of strings: 10  
 kWh cost: \$.09    Avg Monthly Cost: \$28.35

#### Mini (small bulbs)

Lights per string: 100    Watts per string: 40  
 Hours of use/day: 6    Number of strings: 10  
 kWh cost: \$.09    Avg Monthly Cost: \$6.48

### LED LIGHTS

#### Large bulbs

Lights per string: 25    Watts per string: 2  
 Hours of use/day: 6    Number of strings: 10  
 kWh cost: \$.09    Avg Monthly Cost: \$0.32

#### Small bulbs (mini)

Lights per string: 70    Watts per string: 4.2  
 Hours of use/day: 6    Number of strings: 10  
 kWh cost: \$.09    Avg Monthly Cost: \$0.68

## Space heater safety

Portable electric space heaters are a convenient source of supplemental heat for your home.

Unfortunately, they can pose significant fire and electric shock hazards if not used properly.

Please follow these safety tips:

- Look for a model that has been tested and certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory.
- Show everyone in your home how to use the heater properly.
- Select a space heater with a guard around the heating element. This will help keep children, pets and clothing away from the heat source.
- Place the heater at least three feet from anything that can burn, including papers, clothing and rugs.
- Buy a heater that is the correct size for the area you want to heat.
- Plug space heaters directly into a wall outlet, and do not plug other electrical devices into the same outlet.
- Never leave a space heater unattended, and unplug it when not in use or when you go to sleep.
- Note that mobile homes require specially designed heating equipment. Only electric or vented fuel-fired heaters should be used.



**7" x 2.5" AD SPACE AVAILABLE IN 2021** Proceeds benefit EAP. For details, please email [outreach@oppd.com](mailto:outreach@oppd.com).

Proceeds from the sale of advertising space in *Outlets* are donated to OPPD's Energy Assistance Program. An advertisement in *Outlets* does not constitute an endorsement by OPPD. For information about this space, call 531-226-3751.