

# OPPD President & CEO Tim Burke to retire in July

## Internal search for replacement is underway.

After 24 years at OPPD, the past six as president and chief executive officer, Timothy J. Burke has announced his retirement, effective July 2. Burke took over as the utility's 12th CEO in 2015.

Burke said as part of the utility's succession planning, he began thinking about when the "right" time to retire would be.

The fact that he has a sixth grandchild on the way – hundreds of miles away on the East Coast – also played a big part in his decision. He will continue with his community leadership work, he said.

"Looking back at what we set out to accomplish five years ago, we have done what we have said we would do and have set up the organization extremely well," said Burke.

"This isn't a CEO driving it, this is the entire organization doing so. We are doing things other electric companies and utilities would like to do. We are truly leading the way in so many different ways. I'm incredibly proud of the work we've done."

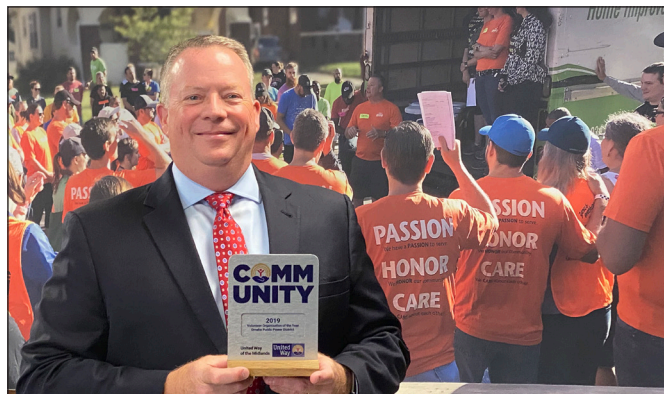
### Solid footing

Burke cited the strategic initiative and directive work done over the past five years with setting that course. OPPD is sound financially, thanks to the process improvement planning and generation work, and the system is resilient, as evidenced by how it has handled flooding, the derecho windstorm, polar vortex and other weather threats.

And the utility has been recognized for strides made in its focus on its customers and lauded nationally as one of the country's top economic development utilities.

That customer focus has been a big part of Burke's work, making sure existing customers grow and thrive, while also drawing new companies to the area by being proactive partners in growing the region.

Burke said he takes great pride in the utility's safety record. 2020 was OPPD's safest year on record, despite



Tim Burke holds the 2019 Volunteer Organization of the Year Award from United Way of the Midlands, a tribute to OPPD employees' community involvement.

many changes in the work environment across the district due to the pandemic.

### Community and industry involvement

Burke, who joined OPPD in 1997 as vice president of Energy Services, leaves a strong legacy of enterprise-wide initiatives, strong strategic planning, cost-management, improving employee engagement and community leadership.

Throughout his career, he has remained active in local and industry organizations. His recent involvement includes the American Public Power Association, Large Public Power Council, Nebraska Power Association, Business Ethics Alliance Trustee, past chair and Executive Committee member – Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce, and the United Way of the Midlands.

### Internal search underway

The OPPD Board of Directors plans to choose a replacement for Burke from within the district's ranks, an endorsement of the current state of affairs in the utility and the job Burke has done since becoming CEO.

The board has indicated the search for Burke's replacement will be a thorough and transparent one, and the goal is to have that person hired by the end of May. That would enable the next CEO to spend time working with Burke on the transition before his July retirement date.

The public was able to provide input about the leadership qualities they wish to see in OPPD's next CEO

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### MAY BOARD MEETINGS

**All-committee meeting:** Tuesday, May 18 (see [oppd.com/BoardMeeting](http://oppd.com/BoardMeeting) for time and how meeting will be conducted).

**Regular board meeting:** Thursday, May 20, **5 p.m.**, online via Webex (see [oppd.com/BoardMeeting](http://oppd.com/BoardMeeting)) and in-person at Legislative Chamber of Omaha-Douglas Civic Center, 1819 Farnam St., Omaha. Hearing-impaired call 531-226-3208, 72 hours prior to request an interpreter. Agendas posted and meetings viewable on [oppd.com/BoardMeeting](http://oppd.com/BoardMeeting).

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# CUSTOMER-OWNED GENERATION

## HOME



## OPPD.com features robust information and resources on customer-owned generation

Thinking about generating your own electricity? With all the different information and offers out in the market these days, it can be tough to know where to turn for reliable, unbiased information.

Not only that, but while generating your own electricity can be very rewarding, it can feel overwhelming or complicated to get started.

That's why OPPD has put together helpful tips, tools and resources to help you make an informed decision. You can find the following resources and more at [OPPD.com/COG](https://www.oppd.com/COG).



### Is solar right for me and my home?

We have a calculator that can help you determine if solar is right for your home. It's a free way to get custom information about your home and solar.



### What can I expect along the way?

What key steps must I follow to be connected to the OPPD grid?

We have put together a quick-start guide video that reviews the process, from getting started to generating your own electricity.



### Who should I trust when it comes to contractors?

Choosing a contractor is an important step in the process, and it can be hard to know where to turn. We have a link to the Nebraskans for Solar directory, which lists trusted local contractors for these types of projects.

We recommend checking this resource and doing personal

research, like checking with the Better Business Bureau, to ensure the contractor is accredited. We also recommend requesting multiple bids.



### How will a customer-owned generation system affect my bill?

Check out our Net Metering Guide infographic, which explains how net metering works and how your energy bill would be adjusted, depending upon your generation.

We also have an extensive FAQ section for answers to common questions.

If you have more questions or wish to talk with OPPD about your project, please call 1-877-536-4131 or email [productsandservices@oppd.com](mailto:productsandservices@oppd.com).

As your Energy Partner, OPPD wants to ensure you are equipped with the solid resources to make an informed decision about your generation future. Visit [OPPD.com/COG](https://www.oppd.com/COG) to learn more.

## OPPD President & CEO Tim Burke to retire *(Continued from front)*

through [OPPDCommunityConnect.com](https://www.oppd.com/CommunityConnect.com), our community engagement website.

When the finalists for this position are announced, the public will be able to learn more about the candidates at [OPPDCommunityConnect.com/ceo-transition](https://www.oppd.com/CommunityConnect.com/ceo-transition).

"It really speaks to the state of the utility being in a very strong position," said Amanda Bogner, OPPD board chair, of the decision to hire the next CEO from within. Craig Moody, chair of the board's Governance Committee, said both the board and Burke consistently stressed

the importance of retaining talent. He said Burke did a great job building the team, and both board members agreed the right team is in place to take the utility into the future.

Burke also knows the leadership talent pool is deep in the organization, something the senior management team set out to do five years ago, through a focus on training and development programs.

"We are in great hands," he said. "Our outlook is amazing and our course is set."

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