



OPPD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 17, 2024

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Omaha Public Power District (“OPPD” or “District”) was held on Thursday, October 17 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 A. E. Bogner, M. J. Cavanaugh, M. R. Core, S. E. Howard, J. M. Mollhoff, C. C. Moody, M. G. Spurgeon and E. H. Williams. Also present in person were L. J. Fernandez, President and Chief Executive Officer, Messrs. 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 OPPD 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, G. M. Langel, T. D. McAreavey, L. A. Olson, M. V. Purnell, B. A. Underwood and T. R. Via. K. W. Brown joined via WebEx.

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

Josh Clark, Manager Protective Services, provided physical safety reminders. L. J. Fernandez, President and CEO, provided psychological safety reminders, including current safety focus reminders about: (i) Fatigue; (ii) Contractor Oversight; and (iii) Fire Safety.

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.

Board Agenda Item 5: Announcement regarding public notice of meeting

Ms. Lane read the following:

“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

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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 October 11, 2024.

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 August 2024 Financial Report, September 2024 Meeting Minutes, and the October 17, 2024 Agenda
7. Risk Committee Charter – Resolution No. 6663
8. President and CEO Emergency Succession Plan – Resolution No. 6664
9. Regulatory Accounting for 2024 Storm Costs – Resolution No. 6665
10. 2024 COP Excess Expenditures Request – Resolution No. 6666
11. SD-13: Stakeholder Outreach and Engagement Monitoring Report – Resolution No. 6667

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

Chair Williams noted the Board discussed the action items during the All Committees meeting held on Tuesday, October 15, 2024.

Chair Williams then asked for public comment. There were no comments from the public in attendance at the meeting.

Chair Williams then asked for public comment on WebEx. There were no comments.

Thereafter, the vote was recorded as follows: Bogner – Yes; Cavanaugh – Yes; Core – Yes; Howard – Yes; Mollhoff – Yes; Moody – Yes; Spurgeon – Yes; Williams – Yes. The motion carried (8-0).

Board Discussion Action Items

12. SD-7: Environmental Stewardship Monitoring Report – Resolution No. 6668

Director Moody moved to approve the discussion action item, and it was seconded by Director Mollhoff.

Chair Williams then asked for public comment. There were no comments from the public in attendance at the meeting.

Chair Williams asked for comments from members of the public on WebEx. There were no comments.

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Chair Williams asked for comments from the Board. There were comments made by Director Mollhoff, Director Spurgeon and Director Williams.

Thereafter, the vote was recorded as follows: Bogner – Yes; Cavanaugh – Yes; Core – Yes; Howard – Yes; Mollhoff – Yes; Moody – Yes; Spurgeon – Yes; Williams – No. The motion carried (7-1).

Board Discussion Action Items

13. SD-7: Environmental Stewardship Revision – Resolution No. 6669

Director Moody moved to approve the discussion action item, and it was seconded by Director Mollhoff. Director Moody provided comments.

Chair Williams then asked for public comment. There was one comment from the public in attendance at the meeting.

David Begley, 4611 S. 96th Street, Omaha, provided comments on the SD-7 revision and presented materials to the board which are attached to these minutes.

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

David Corbin, 1002 N. 49th St, representing Missouri Valley Sierra Club, provided comments on SD-7 interim goals.

John Pollack, 1412 N. 35th Street, Omaha, provided comments on the SD-7 revision and climate resiliency.

Chair Williams asked for comments from the Board. There were comments made by Director Mollhoff, Director Moody and Director Williams.

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

Board Agenda Item 9: President's Report

President Fernandez next presented the following information:

- September 2024 Baseload Generation
- September 2024 Balancing Generation
- September 2024 Renewables
- Annual Youth Power Summit
- Energy Efficiency Assistance Program
- Omaha Out of Darkness Walk
- United Way Day of Caring
- OPPD Mutual Aid Crews
- The Environment & Open Space Award 2024
- In Memoriam – Larry McGrew

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Board Agenda Item 10: Opportunity for comment on other items of District Business

Chair Williams asked for comments from the public in the room on other items of District business. There were three comments.

David Begley, 4611 S. 96th Street, Omaha, provided comments on SD-7 revision and EPA rules, and presented materials to the board which are attached to these minutes.

Connie Remkus, 5027 S. 178th St., Omaha, provided comments on power outages and restoration, and presented materials to the board which are attached to these minutes.

Ryan Wishart, 912 N. 49th, provided comments on the SD-7 revision, IRP and OPPD's obligation to serve.

Chair Williams asked for comments from members of the public on WebEx. There were three comments.


Laverne Treahn, Omaha, provided comments on renewable energy education.

Chris Lukasiewicz, provided comments on a matter not of District business. Mr. Bruckner responded.


John Pollack, 1412 N. 35th Street, Omaha, 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 6:07 p.m.

Signed by:

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

DocuSigned by:

965CE2963A0A42C...

E. H. Lane
Sr. Board Operations Specialist



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October 11, 2024

VIA EMAIL: dbegley@lawyer.com
 David D. Begley
 4611 S 96th St., Suite 25
 Omaha, NE 68127

RE: Public Records Request to Omaha Public Power District

Dear Mr. Begley:

Please be advised that this firm represents the Omaha Public Power District (“OPPD”). On behalf of OPPD, we are responding to your electronic request for records that was received on Wednesday, October 2, 2024, pursuant to the Nebraska Public Records Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-712 *et seq.* (the “Act”). Please direct any and all further communications concerning this matter to the undersigned.

Your request seeks the following: “for the past three (3) fiscal years: (1) the number of potential customers on a waiting list requesting electricity of more than 1 MW per year; (2) the number of written inquiries from potential customers for electricity of more than 1 MW per year; (3) the number of written requests from potential customers for electric service of more than 1 MW per year; (4) the number of written requests from bitcoin miners for electric service of more than 1 MW per year; and (5) the number of written requests from data centers for electric service of more than 1 MW per year.”

For each of your requests, OPPD has provided the following information:

Requests			
Question	2022	2023	2024 YTD
1. Number of potential customers on a waiting list for >1MW	2	8	14
2. Number of written inquiries from potential customers for electricity for >1MW	36	64	45
3. Number of installed service requests for >1MW	31	21	32
4. Number of written requests from crypto miners for electric service for >1MW	2	1	0
5. Number of Written Requests from data centers for Electric Service for >1MW	7	6	19

145!
32!

In providing this response to your request, OPPD does not assume any obligations beyond those specified in the Nebraska Public Records Act. Furthermore, OPPD reserves its rights to withhold the documents requested or parts of documents requested as provided in the Act.

Best regards,

Fraser Stryker

Begley's appeal to the better angels of your nature

Want to make a difference?

Want to be a great Nebraska leader like Fr. John Schlegel, S.J., Fr. Tim Lannon, S.J., Fr. Dan Hendrickson, S.J., Bob Devaney and Tom Osborne?

Make Omaha the data center capital of the US!

Omaha can't be the data center capital of the US with unreliable wind and solar.

Think of the jobs!

Think of the economic activity!

Think of the new revenue for OPPD!

“You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today.”

Abe Lincoln

What good will it do OPPD’s customer-owners if OPPD achieves net zero in 2050 if the demand for power is not satisfied in 2035? What business, growth and revenue opportunities will be foregone if OPPD remains fixated on net zero?

The lost opportunity costs will be in the billions and Nebraska will decline into mediocrity and irrelevance.

Wall Street analyst's comments regarding demand for reliable power.

Now let's look at what GenAI is driving outside the data center. GenAI not only requires more fiber within the data center, but it does require fiber between the data centers as well. Simply put, GPUs are power hungry and there may not be enough power at any given data center site. Therefore, GPU clusters may need to be split out between data centers where more power is available. Alternatively, new locations are being built where power and land is available, but optical fiber may not be. **Wisconsin, Louisiana and Ohio** are notable examples of where hyperscalers are working on new AI data center builds. And this need all centered around power availability has created a market opportunity to interconnect these AI data centers.

The Sierra Club was also critical, saying in part, “Not only do TVA’s benchmarks fall short of the federal guidelines, but they are also unattainable based on the IRP released today, which proposes up to 19 GW of gas-powered electricity. According to the IRP, a majority of its proposed scenarios fail to reach an 80 percent carbon reduction by 2035.”

TVA President and CEO Jeff Lyash said serving the people was the main goal. The TVA pledges to “deliver affordable, reliable, resilient, and increasingly clean energy for the people in the region.”

But, you say, what about the EPA's May 7 hazardous air pollutants emissions standards rule which would essentially prohibit OPPD from building a 3,000 MW natgas plant in Washington County?

1. The following cases were pending on the Supreme Court's emergency docket to block the EPA rule:

#24A95, 24A96, 24A98, 24A197, 24A179, 24A180, 24A178, 24A116, 24A117, 24A106, 24A105, 24A97. Denied October 16, 2024 "but applicants showed a strong likelihood of success." Case pending in DC Circuit will have the first crack at it.

2. If Donald J. Trump is elected President, he will terminate the EPA rule.

SD-7 proposed revision

The Board left out LGBTQIA+ in its definition of “all people.”

Don't LGBTQIA+ people matter to the OPPD Board?

This is just another example of the Board's group think, sloppy thinking, lack of attention to detail and overall lack of seriousness.

Prepared and submitted by customer-owner David D. Begley, 4611 South 96th Street, Omaha, NE

POWER GRAB

A utility promised to stop burning coal. Then Google and Meta came to town.

An energy crunch forces continued coal burning in a low-income area as data centers s¹  **New!** Catch up quickly with key takeaways 

 10 min     375



By [Evan Halper](#)

October 12, 2024 at 5:00 a.m. EDT

OMAHA — Residents in the low-income, largely minority neighborhood of North Omaha celebrated when they learned a 1950s-era power plant nearby would finally stop burning coal. The community has some of the region's worst air pollution and high rates of asthma.

But when the 2023 deadline to rid that plant of coal arrived, the power company that owns it balked. Eliminating toxic emissions conflicted with a competing priority: serving massive, power-hungry Meta and Google data centers the utility helped recruit to the region before it secured enough new energy to meet the extra demand.

The fast-growing data centers — which provide computing power for artificial intelligence — are driving explosive growth in the area's energy use. Electricity demand in Omaha has increased so much overall, according to the Omaha Public Power District, that permanently switching off the two coal-burning generators at its North Omaha plant could buckle the area's electricity system. *Forced blackouts!?*

“A promise was made, and then they broke it,” said Cheryl Weston, who has lived for five decades in North Omaha. “The tech companies bear responsibility for this. The coal plant is still open because they need all this energy to grow.”

Coal is now planned to burn in North Omaha through 2026, according to the utility, although Weston and other critics are skeptical it will stop then.

The disputes in Omaha over data centers and power demand are playing out across the United States. Rapid data center growth has also been accompanied by utility plans to prolong the use of coal in Georgia, Utah and Wisconsin. The Nebraska story reveals in detail how the race by giant technology companies to gain the advantage in AI is conflicting with climate goals and potentially harming public health.

The artificial intelligence industry is driving a nationwide data center building boom. These sprawling warehouses of computing infrastructure are creating explosive demand for power, water and other resources. Power Grab investigates the impacts on America and the risks AI infrastructure creates for the environment and the energy transition.

The Omaha Public Power District blames the missed closure date for its North Omaha coal-burning units on the slow arrival of clean energy supplies from wind and solar, which have met with heavy opposition in rural areas. It also cites regulatory delays that have slowed a plan to replace coal-burning units with natural gas, pointing to long waits to connect new projects to the regional electrical grid and mandates for minimum power supplies. But others in the energy industry say that's not the full story.

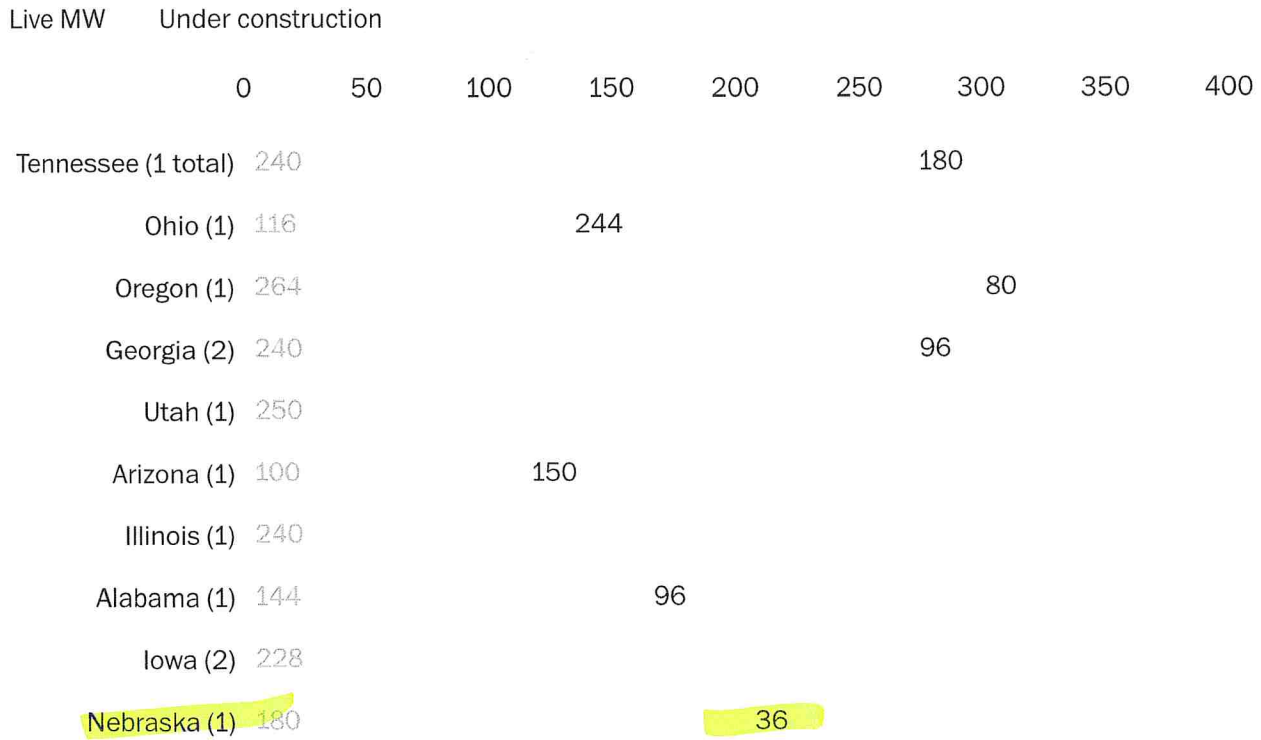
The electricity that Google and Meta — the parent company of Facebook and Instagram — are devouring is a major factor in the extension of coal burning, they say. According to the utility's own estimates, two-thirds of projected growth in demand in the Omaha area is attributable to the massive data centers rising largely on former farmland in the surrounding prairie.

“If not for the data centers and poor planning by the utility, they would not need to push to keep those coal units open,” said Devi Glick, a principal at the consulting firm Synapse Energy Economics. “It is disingenuous to say that is not what is driving this.”

The data centers' need for electricity is enormous. Meta's Nebraska data center alone used nearly as much energy as the North Omaha coal units produced in 2023, company and federal energy disclosures show. It is enough electricity to power more than half the homes in Omaha.

States with Meta's most reserved data center megawatt capacity

Nebraska is Meta's seventh-ranked state for live energy use but will slip to 10th once data centers under construction are complete.



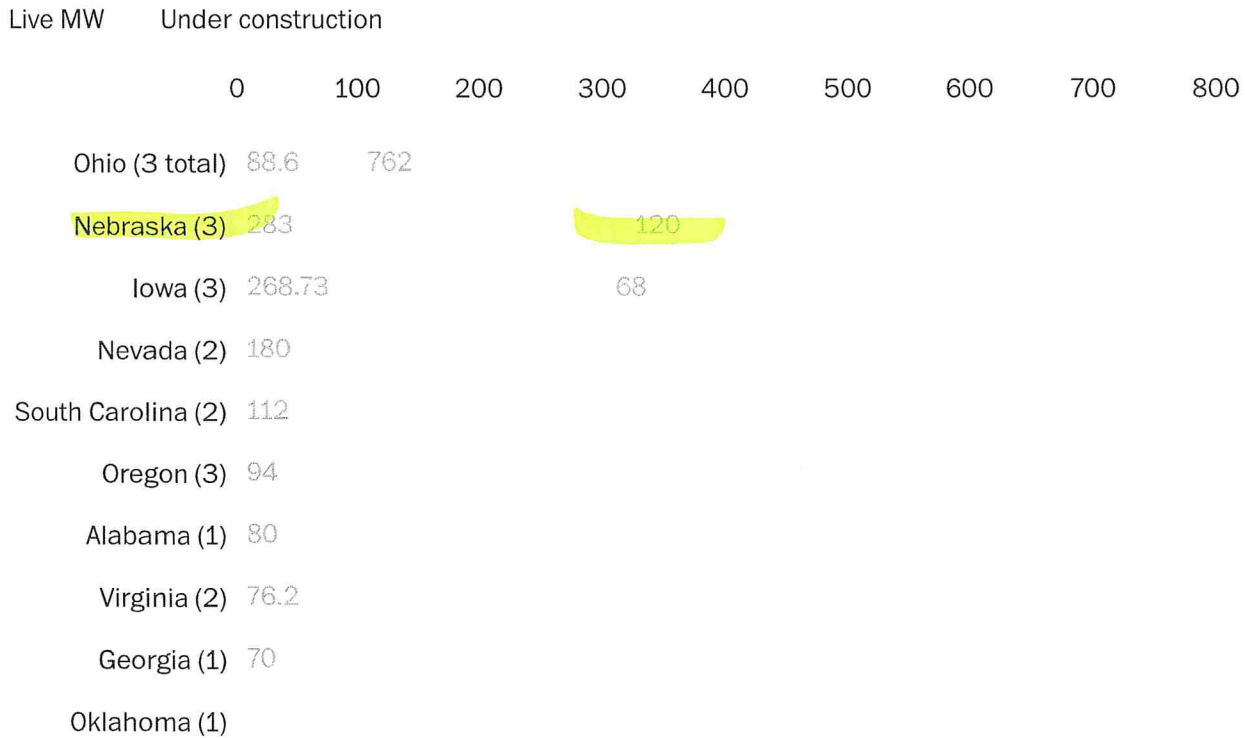
Only top 10 states shown.

Source: DC Byte

ANDREW BA TRAN / THE WASHINGTON POST

States with Google's most reserved data center megawatt capacity

Two Google data centers in Nebraska use the most energy but will be overshadowed once two projects in Ohio are completed.



Only top 10 states shown.

Source: DC Byte

ANDREW BA TRAN / THE WASHINGTON POST

Google's electricity use in the Omaha region eclipses that of Meta, according to tracking by the research firm DC Byte. The data shows Google uses more total electricity in Nebraska than anywhere in the United States.

The conflicts in Omaha are not unique. Companies are scouring the nation for alternative sites for data centers as they encounter land and energy shortages in tech hubs such as Northern Virginia and California's Bay Area. Communities that recently landed on the radar of Silicon Valley are being visited by battalions of tech executives, energy developers and real estate brokers looking for power.

Omaha emerged as prime territory because of its bountiful, cheap electricity and seemingly endless opportunities to convert cornfields into vast solar and wind farms.

Despite the slow arrival of new solar and wind sources into the utility's portfolio, tech companies insist their data center operations in Nebraska are green. By signing contracts with distant renewable power developers, they claim to have "net zero" impact on greenhouse gas emissions, even as the North Omaha coal plant continues to pollute locally.

Residents say those faraway clean power purchases offer little comfort. Asthma rates in North Omaha, where people of color make up 68 percent of the population, are among the highest in the country, according to a study released last year. Coal power plants have been linked to asthma and elevated mortality rates in neighboring communities nationwide.

The newest Omaha-area data centers are so massive, and so unexpected among the corn stalks and sorghum plants, that they seem like science fiction come to life. Meta's sprawling facility is 4 million square feet spread over nine giant complexes. The largely windowless Google and Meta buildings are filled with the racks and servers that power the world's cloud computing needs today and increasingly power the revolution in AI.

Data centers could consume as much as 17 percent of all U.S. electricity by 2030, according to new research from Bloomberg Intelligence, nearly quadruple what they consume today. In the Omaha region, utility officials have announced they will need to double the amount of electricity they generate by that time.

Meta originally passed over Omaha. To woo the tech company, local utility executives created a special industrial electricity rate in 2017. The utility then aggressively marketed the rate to Google. Then-Gov. Pete Ricketts (R) said in 2020 that the Omaha Public Power District was the "linchpin" to getting Google to come to Nebraska.

"It took us 75 years to get where we are today," Omaha Public Power District CEO Javier Fernandez said in a blog post. "By 2030, we are going to nearly double our generation portfolio. That's incredible." Utility officials say they will eventually bring online a huge amount of wind and solar energy — enough to meet as much as 60 percent of the new electricity demand. Much of the rest would come from gas.

Wishful thinking!

Local activists are dismayed by what they say is a muted tech company response to the continued use in Omaha of fossil fuels, not just coal but also natural gas. They say these companies need to be clear that they will not continue to expand if the power company serving them is using dirty energy.

"They're sitting on the sidelines and watching," said Preston Love, a longtime North Omaha community organizer who is running for the U.S. Senate as a Democrat. "They're not in the game. Shame on them. They need to be speaking up."

The tech companies, which declined interview requests, said every watt of power they use for their data centers is matched with purchases of clean energy elsewhere on the regional power grid. But those contracts feed into a vast power grid, spanning 14 states from Louisiana to Montana. Many experts and activists say much of that clean power would probably get produced whether the tech companies were signing contracts or not.

"These tech companies are doing a lot of paper pushing in Nebraska, and there are not enough real projects being built that get new wind and solar on the grid now," said Jane Kleeb, founder of Bold Nebraska, which played a key role in killing the proposed Keystone XL pipeline project.

She said tech companies should help overcome rural opposition that has emerged to huge wind and solar arrays. "The Googles and Metas are basically saying 'Yes, we're net zero' and then leaving all the responsibility of actually building clean energy to us, without supporting our efforts," she said.

The Omaha Public Power District's marquee solar project in development, a 2,800 acre industrial-scale project on York County farmland, 100 miles from Omaha, is getting a frosty reception from locals. At community meetings they have expressed alarm about the project size, its impact on agriculture, alleged chemicals in solar panels and worries the solar generation will be noisy. Some of the anxieties are spawned from what experts say is misinformation spreading online, but others are concerns of a rural community fearing its farming heritage is under threat.

Some of the tension is rooted in resentment that Omaha recruited the data centers and is getting the tax revenue and jobs they bring, but is now looking to far-flung, rural communities to host the industrial-scale energy installations needed to power them.

"I guarantee the people who say they are in favor of this project wouldn't want to have them in their backyard," local resident Jim Jackson said at a county meeting in June, according to the meeting minutes.

"Why pick on prime farm ground?" York County commissioner Stan Boehr said to Omaha utility officials at the gathering. "Why not go to places where you are not interfering with people's lives?" County officials did not respond to requests for comment. York County's draft ordinance would prohibit large solar projects from being installed within a half-mile of other properties.

Fernandez, the Omaha Public Power District CEO, called the York County measure "unreasonable and detrimental to crucial clean energy projects."

In the CEO's opinion!

Omaha Public Power itself sided against a battery project that clean energy advocates say is needed to support wind and solar farms in the state. (Batteries maintain a steady flow of electricity when solar and wind are not producing energy.)

The Omaha Public Power District ruled in April that the developer, Eolian, could not connect to the grid batteries it plans to install on an industrial lot near Omaha's coal-fired plant. The power company said private companies are prohibited from hooking up such projects because Nebraska is a "public power" state where infrastructure must be community owned.

Eolian officials, after working on their plan for six years, say they were blindsided by the decision. They argue Nebraska law has specific exemptions allowing the purchase of clean energy from private firms.

"Given the large and growing data center footprint in Omaha, it is confounding that the local utility would intentionally impede the addition of multi-hour battery energy storage resources," said Eolian CEO Aaron Zubaty. The utility said in a statement that the exceptions are limited and do not allow for "a privately owned, stand-alone battery storage facility." Eolian and the utility will now make their case to the Nebraska Power Review Board, which has authority to approve the project.

As these controversies play out, North Omaha residents accuse the power company and tech firms of dealing with the challenges not by curbing energy use, but by turning North Omaha into a "sacrifice zone."

Residents in the community say it has been neglected and underserved for decades. The average household income of \$47,300 is far below that of the rest of the city. While tech companies and local politicians say the data centers have brought hundreds of millions of dollars in investment and thousands of jobs to the region, North Omaha residents say they are seeing little of it. But they are stuck with two more years of coal emissions.

“This would never be allowed to happen to an affluent White community,” said Anthony Rogers-Wright, a North Omaha activist. “People here are seen as expendable. ... If the power company was not ready to provide clean energy, it should not have been recruiting these data centers to come to Omaha.”

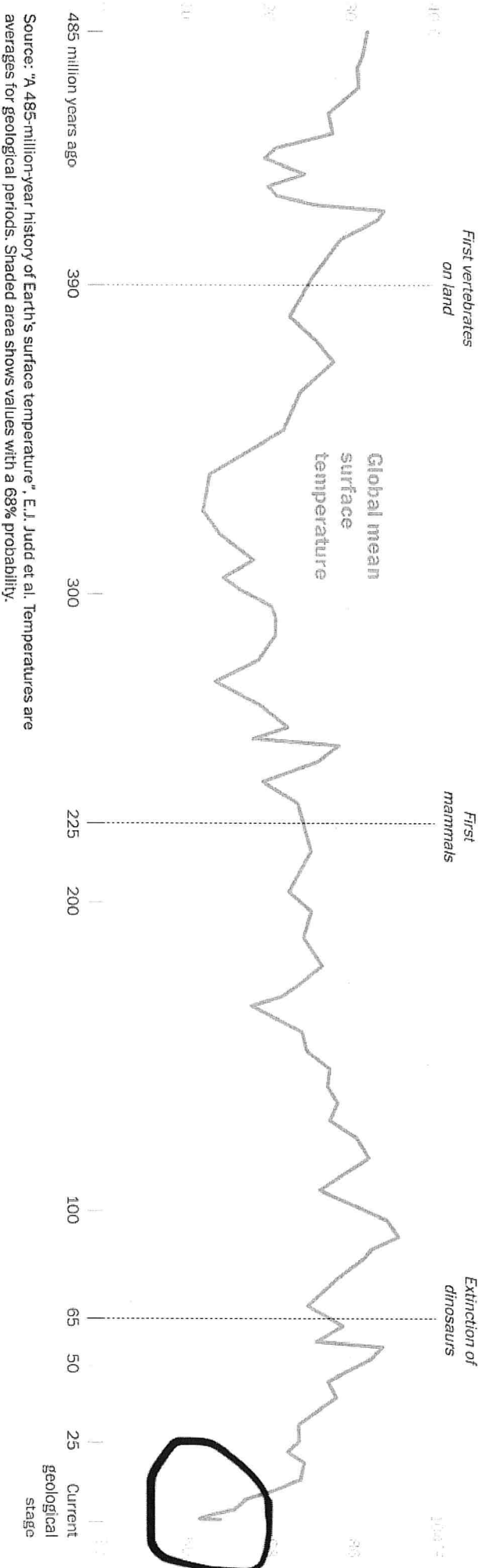
About this story

Andrew Ba Tran contributed to this report. Photo editing by Haley Hamblin. Design by Allison Mann. Design editing by Betty Chavarria. Editing by Christopher Rowland and Sandhya Somashekhar. Project editing by KC Schaper. Copy editing by Sue Doyle.

Scientists have captured Earth's climate over the last 485 million years. Here's the surprising place we stand now.

An effort to understand Earth's past climates uncovered a history of wild temperature shifts and offered a warning on the consequences of human-caused warming.

📍 10 min ⏪ 📄 1711



Source: "A 485-million-year history of Earth's surface temperature", E.J. Judd et al. Temperatures are averages for geological periods. Shaded area shows values with a 68% probability.

Catalog

All Name Start Date End Date Phone # Email

Cast \$0.00

Amanda Bogner	-	-	-	-	Emily Blunt
Craig Moody	-	-	-	-	Hinselt
Eric Williams	-	-	-	-	Zach Quinto
Janece Mollhoff	-	-	-	-	Meryl Streep
L. Javier Fernandez	-	-	-	-	Antonio Banderas
Mary Spurgeon	-	-	-	-	Barbra Streisand
Matt Core	-	-	-	-	Bradley Cooper
Mike Cavanaugh	-	-	-	-	Dennis Quaid
Sara Howard	-	-	-	-	Lady Gaga
Steve Bruckner	-	-	-	-	Brad Pitt

OPPD: The Movie

David D. Begley

Copyright David D. Begley

Contact: David D. Begley
4611 S. 96th St.
Omaha, NE

INT. BLOCK 16, OMAHA'S #1 HIPSTER RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Three OPPD Directors gather to discuss some of the events of the September 19, 2024, Board meeting.

DIRECTOR #1

You know, Begley is right about the need for a Greater Omaha Resiliency Initiative. We really failed OPPD's customer-owners.

DIRECTOR #2

But we can't admit Begley was right and we were wrong!

DIRECTOR #3

What if we call it the Greater Omaha Anti-Outage Project?

DIRECTOR #2

No, then we would be admitting there was an outage.

DIRECTOR #1

Well, there was and it was the biggest in our glorious history.

DIRECTOR #2

What about the Climate Change Reliability Project?

DIRECTOR #3

That's it! Because climate change is an existential threat to humanity and the Earth is going to burn up in 2100.

DIRECTOR #1

We all know that. Climate change is the number one issue facing OPPD's customer-owners; even if those plebes don't realize it. We are the best and the brightest. BTW, did anyone read that Halberstam book that Begley gave us?

DIRECTOR #2

Hell no!

DIRECTOR #3

Absolutely not!

DDB's full comments on SD-7

As I've told the Board at least a dozen times, SD-7 is unlawful as it is contra to OPPD's statutory duty to produce only low cost and reliable power. Wind and solar are neither.

The real tragedy here is not that the world is going to burn up in 2100 (it's not), but that OPPD is missing out on a gigantic economic opportunity as I detailed in my comments at the September 19th meeting.

There is a growing demand for electricity. Data centers and AI are driving that demand. Most other utilities are foolishly adding more intermittent and costly wind and solar to their grids. That's an inadequate and unstable supply. If OPPD built a 3,000 MW gas-fired power plant in Washington or Burt Counties, the Omaha area would see an economic boon.

Transmission is golden. The high-powered lines out of the former Ft. Calhoun station are empty. Fill them up! Transmission costs \$1.5m per mile.

Larry Ellison, chairman and founder of Oracle, recently said he's employing utility executives who are looking to site an Oracle data center that can meet its needs. He thinks the US could need 1,000 data centers that would each consume up to 800 MW. Data centers, of course, need power 24/7/365. Solar doesn't cut it. I also understand that 27 different bit coin miners are looking at Nebraska.

Right now Northern Virginia is the home of the most data centers. Why not Omaha? Answer: Because the Board is fixated on net zero.

More electricity means more revenue for OPPD. That also means that the OPPD executives would also get big pay raises.

I've also told the Board multiple times that the Center of the American Experiment modeled net zero in WI and MN and the result was triple electric rates and black outs in January. CA and Germany have been pursuing net zero for many years and that's why they have electric rates that are triple OPPD's.

If there such a thing as political malpractice, the OPPD Board would be sued into bankruptcy.

As to the new "environmental justice" addition, to say this is ridiculous is an understatement. It has nothing to do with producing low cost and reliable power. With this SD-7 amendment, the Board has become a liberal parody.

David D. Begley

As I had said last month in September, I have lived in 5 of the largest cities in the last 50 years before returning to Omaha in 2016 and had never had a power outage that had crippled and locked down 50% of the population of city this August.

Somehow steps that do not include the common majority of the Omaha population are being considered for how to "correctly" run OPPD.

My anger continues as it just starts getting colder in Omaha, my thoughts are concerned now about the power going out for long periods of time during freezing temperatures, which happens all the time in Omaha. And I came upon an article and video written by Jason Isaac, Director of Life: Powered at the Texas Public Policy Foundation and for Prager University. "The Great Texas Freeze of 2021".

And I am going to read some of this, and I want to recommend all of the directors to find this article and video and learn from it. I want to make sure that Oppd is learning from their disaster.

"four million Texans lost power . And hundreds died including an 11-year-old boy who froze to death in his sleep.

The real cause is decades of misguided policies that have left Texas with an unreliable energy infrastructure. "

"In 2020, Texans got 25% of their energy from renewables. During the February storm, however, that fell to 8%, at one point reaching a deadly low of just 1.5%."

"The reason? Renewable energy only works when the weather cooperates, Solar panels don't capture sunlight and wind turbines don't spin when covered in snow and ice."

"Since 2006, Texas has subsidized renewable energy to the tune of \$19 billion. All of this came right out of Texans' wallets, courtesy of ever-increasing electric bills and rising property taxes.

Unfortunately, this scenario is playing out across America." including Omaha"

"Over the past decade, the federal government has spent over \$230 billion on energy subsidies, "

“Washington subsidizes wind 17 times and solar 75 times more than fossil fuel companies.”

The verdict is in: renewable energy is expensive and unreliable. And if it can render America's leading power producer powerless, it can do the same to our state of Nebraska.”

Thank you for your time.

Connie Elaine Remkus

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