

Hello, customers and teammates,

Each year, we host one offsite board meeting in a customer community to connect with local leaders and strengthen existing relationships. This month, it was held in Kearney. Everything we do at NPPD is for our customers, so staying in tune with Kearney's values, goals and insights is incredibly important, especially as we advance projects designed to bring the best of public power to all those we serve.

During this month's meeting, board attendees received an update on the Department of Energy's recent award of \$27.9 million dollars to support next generation nuclear in Nebraska. This funding follows the completion of NPPD's small modular reactor, or SMR, siting study, which identified four promising locations – Sutherland, Norfolk, Beatrice and Brownville – based on their existing generation assets, transmission access and available water resources.

With the DOE's Gen III+ SMR Pathway to Deployment Program funding, our next steps include contract negotiations with the DOE prior to executing all the work involved in obtaining a U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Early Site Permit. We will also continue building a framework for future SMR deployment, expanding community engagement and public education, and collaborating with regional partners through the Great Plains New Nuclear Consortium. Collectively, these efforts form a coordinated plan to prepare a high-quality site for new nuclear in Nebraska and position NPPD and our wholesale partners to meet rising energy demand with dependable, carbon-free generation.

Several additional board approvals were obtained supporting our work to increase generation capacity and ensure we continue delivering reliable, resilient and affordable power well into the future. This includes the procurement of three simple cycle combustion turbines and related equipment from Siemens Energy Inc. for installation at the Beatrice Power Station, as well as a long-term optimized maintenance agreement with Wartsila North America for reciprocating internal combustion engines at Princeton Road Station. We look forward to celebrating breaking ground at Princeton Road Station on July 17. This is an important milestone for this new facility and everything it represents.

The board also approved an amendment to the R-Project contract to reflect updated costs for remaining work, along with a related amendment covering engineering, routing, design, right-of-way, and construction management services. During the meeting, feedback was heard from individuals both in support of and opposition to the R-Project, and it was an excellent opportunity to gain additional perspective on the process. We thank those

individuals for exercising their right to provide constructive feedback to the NPPD board and management.

Closely tied to our generation and infrastructure planning is a question many customers are asking: how will NPPD keep rates competitive and affordable in the years ahead? During this year's second Customer Committee meeting, we discussed the latest results of our 2027–2032 Rate Outlook study, including key assumptions, projected rate impacts, and how we expect to compare among our peers.

While new rate schedules won't be approved until November, these conversations help ensure transparency, understanding and open dialogue around future projections. They reinforce our commitment to maintaining stability at a time when energy costs nationwide continue to rise due to similar generation buildouts, increased load, and inflation affecting everything from labor to equipment availability and project timelines. Rate discussions will continue throughout the summer and fall as we work to operate responsibly, manage risk carefully, and always prioritize our customers' needs. Above all, we remain committed to delivering the reliable, affordable, resilient and sustainable energy solutions our customers can depend on, 24-7.

Until next time, stay healthy and stay safe.

Tom