

Hello, teammates and customers!

I'm Dallas Beshaler, vice president of HR and corporate services with NPPD.

September's board meeting gave us a chance to pause and look at the work happening across the District with a wider lens. This month's discussion strengthened the connection between our day-to-day efforts and the long-term direction we are charting together, highlighting initiatives that support a more robust, resilient future for the communities we serve.

One of the key items was the start of NPPD's 18-month effort to develop a long-range strategic vision that will guide us for the next twenty-five years and will be supported through our annual strategic plan. We are working with Next Generation Consulting, who specializes in strategic foresight—helping organizations identify risks, plan for uncertainty, unlock creativity and shape the future. Conversations with our board, leadership and wholesale customers revealed themes: our diversified portfolio provides strength; nuclear remains one of the long-term answers; public power is worth defending; and our people are our competitive advantage. This process will involve teammates and customers, reinforcing a culture where open dialogue and constructive challenge support stronger decisions.

That long-term perspective connects directly to how we support Nebraska's economy today. The board reviewed the strategic directive guiding our economic development work. Our team collaborates with communities to understand workforce needs, analyze industries, prepare shovel ready sites and enhance the quality of life for our customers. Programs like Site Readiness Assistance have supported 26 grants across 15 communities, and nine project wins this year have brought 139 jobs and \$422 million in new capital investment.

Several updates this month supported our emPOWERING Nebraska's Tomorrow Program—our commitment to preparing the grid for long-term reliability, affordability and future load growth. As more businesses choose Nebraska and project sizes grow, updates to our New Load Process Policy ensure a clear, consistent approach for evaluating new service requests. The policy reinforces timelines, incorporates LB1010 requirements and protects existing customers from stranded costs, while giving new customers confidence that capacity will be available when needed.

We are also advancing major generation projects, including Phase 1 work at Princeton Road Station, where crews have moved more than three million yards of material, installed piling to support stack foundations and continued underground utility and foundation work. For Phase 2, the board approved purchasing three power transformers as development continues. Separate from generation, multiple transmission line projects are underway statewide to support current and future loads, increase reliability and enhance resiliency. Recent work includes reviewing landowner comments ahead of proposed route meetings and coordinating with county commissioners, utilities and Nebraska Game and Parks to ensure routes meet both system and community needs.

And finally, this month, we celebrated the 35th anniversary of the Nebraska Open, which has contributed more than \$2.1 million in scholarships for Nebraska community college students.

A reminder for everyone, there will be no regular board meeting in October. Instead, the directors will gather for their annual Strategic Board Retreat, with the Customer Committee joining.

Thank you for the work that you all do every day. These efforts—planning, supporting communities, welcoming growth and building the infrastructure Nebraska needs—are all connected. Together, they ensure that we are ready for the future.

Until next time, stay healthy and stay safe.