

**Maier, Bill**

**From:** Schwarz, Jon [jon.schwarz@nebraska.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 20, 2011 8:45 AM  
**To:** Berndt, Al; Canida Audie ; Fawl, Jodie; Hollingsead Greg; Imler, Earl; Kirk Phil; Maier, Bill; McCabe Ron ; Newsham, Cindy; Ryan Laurel ; Valentine Norman ; Jansky, Doris; Jensen, Danielle; Loos, Jerry; Moon Guy; Willson, Ginger  
**Subject:** FW: OPPD Flood Update -- FW: [macchusers] Be Safe  
**Attachments:** flood update July 15.pdf

FYI,

Jon

**From:** Pitmon Foxall (ConAgra Foods) [mailto:Pitmon.Foxall@conagrafoods.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 19, 2011 8:36 AM  
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**Cc:** Bulling, Denise  
**Subject:** FW: OPPD Flood Update -- FW: [macchusers] Be Safe

For you review from Gail Braun.



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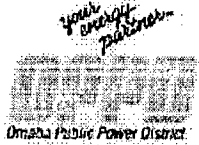
**From:** (b)(6) On Behalf Of MARTIN, JUDITH A  
**Sent:** Friday, July 15, 2011 4:16 PM  
**To:** 'Braswell, Nancy'; 'Dbbesh-Degraff, Roseann'; 'Dutton, Phyllis'; 'Flom, Dennis'; 'Grady, Cindy'; 'Gregory, Candice'; 'Griffith, Bev'; 'Hart, Linda'; 'Hoke, Randy'; 'Hornacek, Mike'; 'Hruska, Katie'; 'Inserra, Terry'; 'Johnson, Paul (DC EMA)'; 'Jones, Cliff'; 'Kibat, Bob'; 'King Darnell'; 'King, LaShanda'; 'Kubat, Richard (DC Commissioners)'; 'Michelle Moyes-Dill'; 'Mulherin, Bill'; 'Nelson, Luanne'; 'Peterson, Steve'; 'Plautz, Eric J. (DC EMA)'; 'Pleiss, Stefanie'; 'Pour, Adi (DCHD)'; 'Robinson, Reggie'; 'Schrader, Shelley'; 'Shadden, Kelly'; 'Sims, Marilyn'; 'Smith, Kenneth'; 'Stolinski, A/C Daniel P. (OmaF)'; 'Thorson, Don'; 'Young, John'; 'mmartinez@communityactionatwork.org'; 'NEAN-Heineman, Krista'; 'Jeremy Coffey (JCoffey@heartlandfamilyservice.org)'; 'Kelly, Mike (Mike.Kelly@nebraska.gov)'; (b)(6); 'SchlegelmilchDa@usa.redcross.org'; 'NoonAnd@usa.redcross.org'; 'Molly Phillips'; 'NEAN-Moore, Jamie'; 'Ronald Abdouch (rgabdouch@neighborhood-center.org)'; 'Thomas, David (Plng)'; 'Matt, Norita (Plng)'; 'Thele, James (Plng)'; 'Steve Cinnamon, Rebuilding Together (steve@rebuildingomaha.org)'; 'Tom Pettigrew'; (b)(6); 'Frink, Linda (Plng)'; 'Williams, Eric H. (Planning)'; 'Wamstad-Evans, Kristina M. (Planning)'; 'Vernon Waldren'; 'Holly Vail'; 'Barry Wingert'; 'Bonnie Holm'; 'Steinkraus, Reid (DCHD)'; 'Honaker, Michael (Plng)'; 'Crystal A Rhoades'; 'Ryan Underwood'; 'Nicole Caputo'; 'Sean Haire'; 'Kara Eastman'; 'Connie Lowndes'; 'Amanda (Jedlicka) Brewer'; 'Pat G. (b)(6)'; 'Baker, Theresa (Theresa.Baker@hdrinc.com)'; 'Hunter, Teresa'; 'Kalkowski, Julie C. (JulieKalkowski@creighton.edu)'; 'Jeannie Dickes'; 'NEAN-Eustice, Susan'; 'Kathleen O'Hara Brehm'; 'Stephen Stout'; (b)(6); 'Deborah Conley'

in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, exemptions  
FOIA- 211-1339

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**Subject:** [macchusers] Be Safe

Attached is the latest issue of Flood Update from your OPPD Corporate Communications team.

Please visit <http://oppdstorminfo.blogspot.com/> or [www.oppd.com](http://www.oppd.com) for additional flood information



**Judi Martin**

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# Flood Update

July 15, 2011

The latest impact on OPPD operations



Rissa Conner, Ed Jackson, Jim Ramirez and Dave Perez of Material Management have been busy procuring materials to help fight the flooding.

## Latest Updates

### Fort Calhoun Station

- The river at FCS is at 1,005 feet, 10 inches.
- Employees continue to monitor all flood-protection barriers to ensure their effectiveness.
- Personnel remain focused on safety and attention to detail.

### Nebraska City Station

- The river level is at 921 feet, 7 inches, down nearly 3 feet from peak.

- Work continues on raising the main line of track into the station. The staging tracks have been raised and coal delivery continues.

### North Omaha Station

- The river level is at 990 feet, 9 inches, down nearly 1 foot from peak.
- Sandbagging for the EOF Building and access road are complete. Access road is open.
- Pumping continues down the drainage ditch and Power Park ball fields during daylight hours.
- Rail delivery to the plant remains in service.
- Levee inspections are ongoing.

### Transmission & Distribution and Substation

- T&D is doing transmission flood inspections.

## Message from Gary Gates

Many have asked if OPPD will increase rates to help cover its flood-related costs. It would be premature to try to answer that question today.

It is too early to project what the final costs will be, due to the unknown duration of the Missouri River flooding.

We continue to put pressure on ourselves internally to take costs out of the business where we can – without jeopardizing safety or customer service.

To date, we've committed to \$9 million in internal budget cuts or project deferments. Going forward, we're asking employees companywide to continue to look for ways to reduce costs to help offset the costs of the flooding.

We also are working closely with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and our insurance providers to determine what OPPD's reimbursements will be.

Such reimbursements are important variables that will help offset the financial impact, and we will not know the amounts of these reimbursements until later.

In the face of this challenge, our employees have done a great job of protecting the health and safety of the public, and protecting the assets of OPPD and its customer-owners.

Once the numbers are in that enable us to determine whether there will be an impact on rates or on the Fuel & Purchased Power Adjustment line item on customers' bills, we will let them know so they can plan and budget accordingly.

**Gary Gates**  
President & CEO

## Safety

Extreme Heat Warning.  
Take the appropriate measures.

**SAFETY**

Updates continued on page 2

## Corps of Engineers

- The Corps of Engineers continues its release from Gavins Point Dam at 160,000 cubic feet per second and expects to maintain this release rate until July 30.
- On July 30, the release rate will be lowered to 155,000 cubic feet per second. The release rate will again be lowered on August 1 to 150,000 cubic feet per second.
- The Corps is doing hydrological modeling to determine how much and when to perform further release reductions.
- River flows and levels at the power plants are expected to remain steady through the weekend and into early next week.
- Mountain snow that feeds into the upper reservoirs has melted. The Corps is monitoring for any upstream rain that could cause river levels to increase.

## Media

- The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued a news release announcing that it will meet with OPPD officials in Omaha on July 27 to discuss post-flooding recovery actions as well as ongoing actions to keep Fort Calhoun Station safe during flooding at the site. The meeting will be open to the public for observation and is expected to be attended by local media. The meeting is scheduled to be held at the Doubletree Inn in Omaha beginning at 9 a.m. After the business portion of the meeting, members of the NRC staff will be available to answer questions.

## Heat Safety

When working in hot weather conditions, take steps to avoid heat-related illnesses.

- Drink plenty of water. Avoid caffeine, which dehydrates the body.
- Eat small meals and eat more often. Avoid foods that are high in protein,

*Safety information continued on page 3*

To provide feedback on  
Corporate Communications  
flood news coverage, email  
[floodnewsfeedback@oppd.com](mailto:floodnewsfeedback@oppd.com).

## Q&A on Flood Impact to OPPD

Customers have been asking questions regarding the flood impact to OPPD's operations. Following are answers to questions regarding generation, grid reliability, coal availability and impact to rates.

**Q: Can you provide a formal response regarding the vulnerability of OPPD's generation and the potential impact to power supply due to a levy or barrier breach? This would include North Omaha Station, Nebraska City 1 & 2, or any electrical facilities (transmission) next to the river.**

**A:** Since notified by the Army Corps of Engineers of increased release rates at Gavins Point Dam, OPPD has been working hard to harden its facilities along the Missouri River to protect against rising river levels. We used Corps inundation maps to identify which facilities should have hardening measures applied, including our generation plants, substations, transmission and critical distribution. Where necessary, OPPD used earthen berms and sandbag berms around plants, substations and critical equipment, plugged ducts and installed pumps.

In addition to hardening efforts, we have employed some water-detection systems, and created pumping maintenance and inspection plans. Contingency planning is also under way to address potential flooded substations due to berm or levee breaches, so that generation can continue to be delivered to meet customer load.

OPPD has been coordinating with external agencies and other utilities in our planning, hardening and inspection efforts. Lastly, we are working to develop post-flood recovery strategies to ensure a return to normal operations as soon as reasonably possible. Taken together, all these efforts will ensure minimal impact on the OPPD grid and its ability to ensure generation is available to serve customer load.

In addition to Missouri River efforts, we have been monitoring OPPD facilities that could be impacted by other area rivers or creeks. At this time, this risk remains low.

As far as our power plants are concerned, we have done a great deal of work at both Fort Calhoun Station and Nebraska City Station, providing berms and sandbag walls around critical infrastructure, such as the substations.

At Nebraska City Station, we have raised the rail lines going into the station several feet to stay above water and keep the coal trains running. We also raised the track at North Omaha Station. Both coal plants (Nebraska City Station and North Omaha Station) have several weeks of coal in their coal piles, so the plants would be able to continue operating through the expected duration of the increased river flows. We are conducting levee inspections around the clock at both North Omaha and Nebraska City stations. Should an issue develop, we will address it as quickly as possible.

**Q: Can increased flood levels take out the Jones Street substation? I know the downtown grid is fed from more than one substation, but what are the OPPD plans if Jones Street has to be shut down? How much spare capacity is there? What other substations are connected to the downtown network grid?**

**A:** There are multiple substations and transmission lines in the downtown area that serve load. OPPD has taken efforts to harden the Jones Street facilities, where needed, and the adjacent subs, which are at risk to flooding should levees breach. If Jones Street must be shut down, there are other sources of OPPD generation that could be used to serve customers from the grid. Not all substations in the downtown area are at risk of flooding. Subs at risk have been hardened and are being monitored regularly. (See answer 1 above.)

which increases metabolic heat.

- Take regular breaks, in the shade, if possible.
- If you recognize that you or someone else is showing signs of heat-related illness, stop all activity and get help, as needed.

## Recognizing Heat Stroke

Also known as sunstroke, heat stroke is life-threatening. The victim's temperature-control system, which produces sweating to cool the body, stops working.

The body temperature can rise so high that brain damage and death may result if

the body is not cooled quickly.

## Symptoms of heat stroke:

- Hot, red and dry skin
- Changes in consciousness
- Rapid, weak pulse
- Rapid, shallow breathing
- Body temperatures can be very high, as high as 105 degrees

## Symptoms of heat exhaustion:

- Cool, moist, pale, flushed or red skin
- Heavy sweating
- Headache

- Nausea or vomiting
- Dizziness
- Exhaustion
- Body temperature will be near normal

## Disconnect Policy

The disconnect policy for customers with homes being affected remains in force. Currently, there are 488 disconnections due to the flood situation. The policy is detailed here.

- It's important to note that the governing authorities, not OPPD, are determining evacuation needs.
- To ensure public safety, if a customer living along the river requests that we disconnect their power due to the flooding, and our crews are able to get to the residence and they are the only residence impacted, we will disconnect the power. In these situations, we will be setting the expectation that the customer will need to get a permit/inspection to get the power reconnected. We will communicate to these customers that if there is a concern prior to our crew arriving, they can shut off their main breaker.
- Under no circumstances should anyone attempt to turn off power at the main electrical panel if they must stand in water or even on a wet floor to do so.
- Reconnections will only occur when an approval is received from the proper authorities who preside over the area.
- We will also disconnect power if a city official or other government entity requests that we do so or if they officially evacuate an area.
- OPPD reserves the right to disconnect power if OPPD crews detect an unsafe environment.

**Q: What is the coal availability at North Omaha Station? I drive by the power plant daily and have noticed no coal deliveries for some time. I had heard that a coal train was diverted because it couldn't get to the generator. What is the outlook for coal deliveries to North Omaha Station? What is the number of days you have in stock at the generator? What happens if coal deliveries cannot be made?**

**A:** North Omaha Station is currently receiving shipments of coal, and OPPD does not anticipate any major interruption in coal deliveries at this time. Coal deliveries at the plant were delayed temporarily between June 25 and July 1 due to flooding in the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Gibson yard and city of Omaha flood-related work under the alternate Union Pacific tracks. North Omaha Station, like OPPD's other coal-fired plant, Nebraska City Station, has several weeks' supply of coal to allow for these types of situations. In addition to the two coal plants, OPPD currently has the ability to use its three peaking plants to add additional generation or to purchase power from other sources.

**Q: How is Nebraska City Station faring? This plant is threatened, and it has been published that an 18-inch rise in the river will necessitate shutting it down. How much power do we get from Nebraska City with Fort Calhoun Station offline? How will this affect us if it happens?**

**A:** Nebraska City Station is operating safely at full capacity. The current river level at the plant is 921 feet, 7 inches. The levee is built to 927 feet, 6 inches. Plant personnel have built primary and secondary barriers around the plant so more than four feet remain before water would breach the primary levee. Nebraska City Units 1 and 2 provide a significant amount of the electricity to OPPD customers. More than 1,350 megawatts of electricity is generated at the plant. While Fort Calhoun Station is offline, OPPD's North Omaha Station, Nebraska City Station and its peaking units are providing the power that is required by its customers. OPPD is also acquiring short-term power purchases as needed to meet customer demand.

**Q: Rate Impact(s) – Is there going to be a rate increase to cover flood costs incurred by OPPD? Do you have a percentage so I can budget? If so, when will this hit my monthly bill?**

**A:** It's too early to tell. We've got costs associated with flooding, but we just don't know what the full impact will be. A lot depends on the duration of the flooding. We've cut costs internally, and we may be getting disaster reimbursement, but we just don't know the entire financial impact at this time.

Flood Update is issued on an as-needed basis by Corporate Communications. To provide feedback on Corporate Communications' flood news coverage, email: [floodnewsfeedback@oppd.com](mailto:floodnewsfeedback@oppd.com)