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# **Glossary of abbreviations**

**DOE:** Department of Energy

**EPA:** Environmental Protection Agency

**FEMA:** Federal Emergency Management

Agency

**FERC:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

**GWh:** Gigawatt hours

kW: Kilowatt

kWh: Kilowatt hours

**kV:** Kilovolt

MISO: Midcontinent Independent System

Operator, Inc.

MW: Megawatt

**MWh:** Megawatt hours



Welcome to our 2024 Impact Report, which reflects who we are as a group of people who share core values: Community, Customer focus, Integrity, People, Resourcefulness, and Safety. These values are more than words. They guide our decisions, shape our culture, and define our impact. They reflect how we show up for our customers, our communities, and each other, while providing an essential service.

In 2024 we continued our mission to improve the quality of life in the areas in which we do business. Throughout this report you'll read about our customer-centered improvements. For example, our new bill design makes it easier for customers to find the information that's important to them, and Advanced Metering Infrastructure lays the groundwork to better meet our customers' needs.

You'll also learn about our impact on the rural communities we serve. A reliable and resilient transmission system is crucial to meet the growing energy needs of our region. That's why we're working on transmission projects in every state within our service area as we plan for the evolving energy landscape. And our Integrated Resource Plan outlines the combination of resources we'll use to meet our customers' energy needs during the next 15 years while ensuring electric service continues to be safe, reliable, and economical.

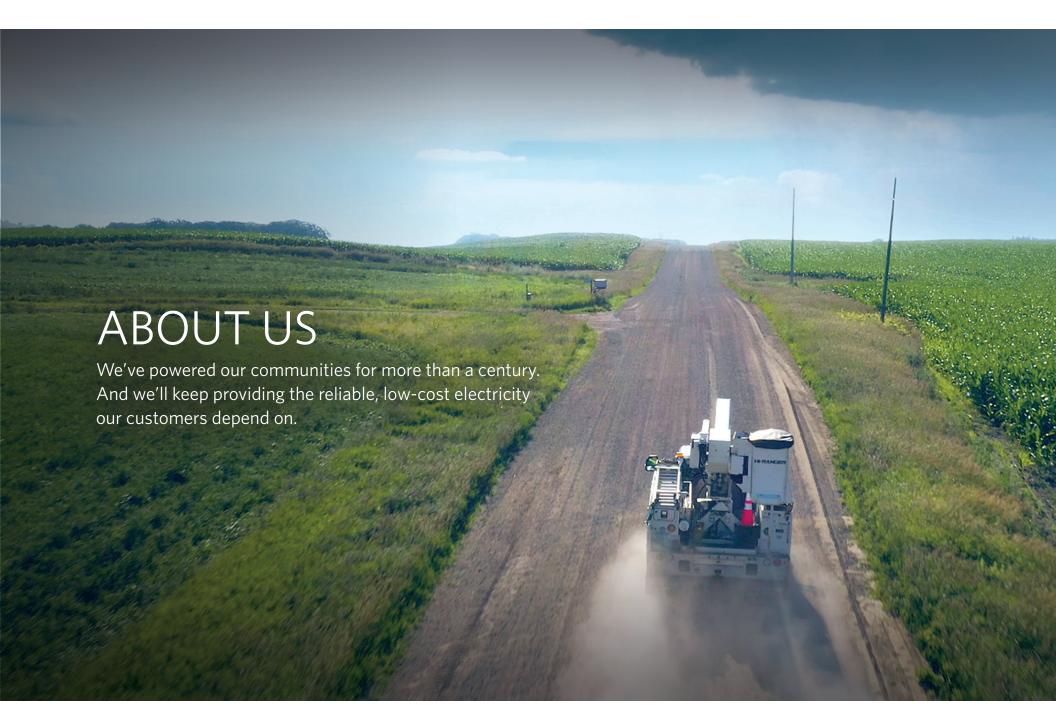
This report describes how we live our values every day. It's about the people behind the power, the partnerships that support our purpose, and the actions we're taking to build a more sustainable, resilient future.

As we look ahead, we remain dedicated to our mission. We're prepared for and committed to navigating the ongoing transformation of the energy industry. And we're taking the necessary steps to continue to provide cost-effective, reliable electricity while supporting a balanced energy mix.

Timothy J. Rogelstad

President

Otter Tail Power Company



We generate, transmit, and distribute electricity to approximately 133,900 residential, commercial, and industrial customers in 422 communities across 70,000 square miles in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Our company is named after the Otter Tail River, which provided our first source of electricity when we served our first customer in 1909.

We're a wholly owned subsidiary of investor-owned Otter Tail Corporation (Nasdaq: OTTR) and reported \$525 million in revenues in 2024. Headquartered in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, we're governed by federal and state utilities commissions, which regulate our rates and services.



### **Vision**

Growth and success—for our company and the rural communities we serve. We collaborate and prosper through responsible, resourceful action. We balance community, economic, and environmental commitments. Always.

### **Mission**

To produce and deliver electricity as reliably, economically, and environmentally responsibly as possible to the balanced benefit of customers, shareholders, and employees and to improve the quality of life in the areas in which we do business.

# **Values**

We make decisions based on our core values.

**Community:** We improve the quality of life in the areas in which we do business.

**Customer focus:** We provide reliable electricity and timely, courteous customer service.

**Integrity:** We conduct business responsibly and honestly.

**People:** We build respectful relationships and create an environment where all people can thrive.

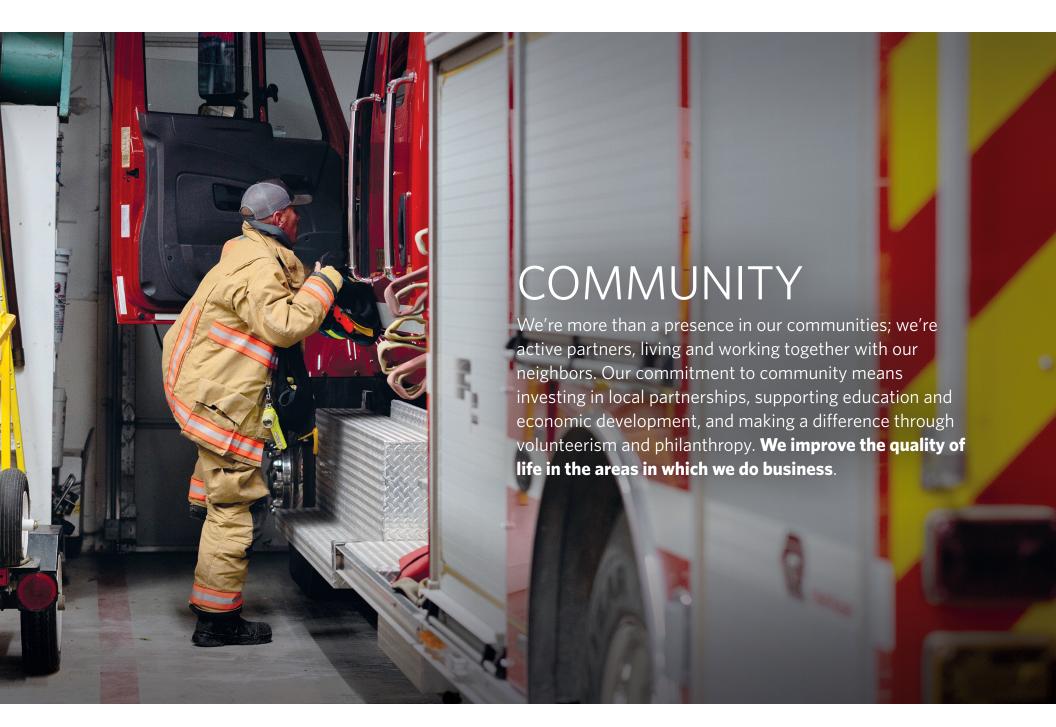
**Resourcefulness:** We draw on the ingenuity and expertise of various resources to create strategic, balanced plans.

**Safety:** We provide safe workplaces and require safe work practices.

**133,900** CUSTOMERS



**422**COMMUNITIES



# **Volunteerism and donations**

We continue our tradition of giving to and caring for the communities we serve. One way we do this is through the Otter Tail Power Company Foundation, a separate 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization funded by shareholders.

The Otter Tail Power Company Foundation's mission is to connect with our rural areas to support young minds, invest in our current and future workforce, create vibrant culture and vital communities, improve health and human services, and protect our natural resources.

We provide financial support to a broad array of programs, projects, and organizations, focusing our resources on initiatives that align with our priority giving areas. Our giving distribution by state is in proportion to our service area and the customers we serve.

In 2024 the Foundation's donations helped local organizations provide outdoor recreation and agricultural conservation learning opportunities, scholarships, emergency food services and resources, accessible playgrounds, and much more. For example, we helped fund Northeast South Dakota Community Action's emergency services, which included support for low-income weatherization, housing rehabilitation, and other helpful social service programs. We also helped support FIRST Lego League in Bemidji, Minnesota, providing students with engineering and leadership experience through robotics programming.

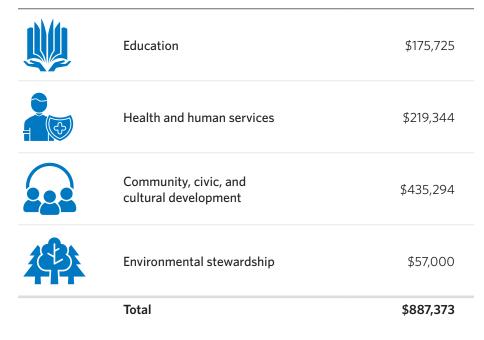
Our Power of Two program helps amplify the impact our teams and communities are already making while supporting the causes that are close to employees' hearts. Each year any employee who contributes a minimum of 24 hours of personal volunteer time or personally donates to a qualifying nonprofit organization is eligible for one \$250 donation to that organization from our Foundation.

In 2024 our employees volunteered more than 4,300 hours and personally donated more than \$7,000 to organizations like Fergus Falls Youth Archery and BIOGirls. We helped contribute an additional \$21,554 to the organizations employees served through our Power of Two program.





# Foundation giving by priority area



# Foundation giving by state

Minnesota	\$461,407	52%
North Dakota	\$372,281	42%
South Dakota	\$53,675	6%



"I've been volunteering with the Blue Line Club for about ten years and enjoy being with the kids and coaching them.

I feel glad to contribute my time to keep this organization going.

This is where I played hockey as a kid, and I'm grateful that my kid gets to do the same."



Tom Delorme Crookston Service Representative and Red Lake Falls Blue Line Club volunteer





In addition to our Foundation, each of our Customer Service Centers provides charitable support for local donation and sponsorship requests. Many of our teams participate in community-based efforts and provide in-kind work, like donating to Bismarck State College's lineworker program and participating in Bemidji's Night We Light Celebration, using their time and talents to give back to our communities.

Our company also coordinates energy conservation efforts and provides localized energy assistance and programming.



# **Encouraging public safety**

From safety around electrical equipment to preparing for severe weather and tree trimming, we provide public safety information to customers in a variety of ways. We publish everyday tips and reminders on our social media platforms and in monthly bill inserts. Information is also available on our website and by calling our Customer Service department.

And we continuously remind customers via these same communication methods to stay safe and away from downed lines or poles until our crews can make repairs—especially during outage restoration efforts.



# Enhancing community partnerships and renewable energy options

We partner with regional learning organizations to help children discover the science behind energy generation, explore new electric technologies, and understand the importance of energy efficiency. At the same time, we're expanding access to renewable energy options by supporting electric vehicle adoption, investing in solar energy for schools, and piloting innovative battery storage solutions.

# **Discover Energy**

We provide ongoing support to Otter Cove Children's Museum in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. In 2024 the museum welcomed more than 27,000 visitors from across the state and the country. Discover Energy is a monthly Saturday morning program for children ages four to ten with activities that educate about renewable energy sources, such as wind, solar, and hydroelectric power. Interactive exhibits include a wind farm, wind turbine,

water current racing, a hydroelectric dam model, and a functional solar energy display. Our company's funding provides supplies for activities and a stipend for teachers.

# **LED** lighting events

We collaborated with local nonprofit organizations to distribute approximately 1,870 LED holiday light strings in the fall of 2024. We provided community members with energy-efficient lights in exchange for nonperishable food items, toys, or cash donations, all of which directly supported our nonprofit partners.

Our team organized and staffed community events in Bemidji and Fergus Falls, Minnesota, collecting approximately 600 pounds of food, \$500 in cash donations for local food shelves, and 165 toys for the United Way Holiday Toy Program.



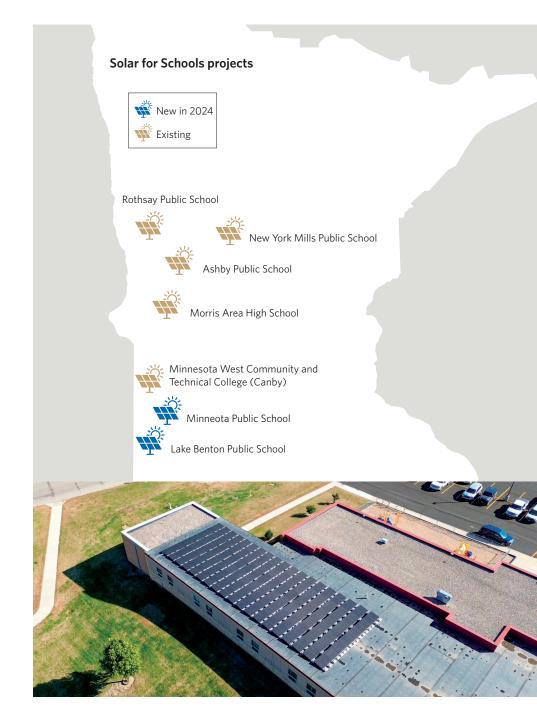
### Solar for Schools and POP Solar

In 2024 we worked with two K-12 schools (Minneota Public Schools and Lake Benton Public School) to gain approvals for Minnesota Solar for Schools program funding. In addition to Minnesota Solar for Schools funding, these two schools and the University of Minnesota, Morris participated in and received further funding from our Publicly Owned Property (POP) Solar program.

Every school that participated in Solar for Schools or POP Solar constructed at least one 40-kW solar array on their campus. They'll use the energy produced from the solar arrays to help offset their energy consumption, saving money on their electric bills, and helping them achieve their sustainability goals. We anticipate completing more solar projects in 2025 with nearly all costs covered by Solar for Schools, POP Solar programs, and the federal investment tax credit.

# **Battery storage**

We're partnering with the University of Minnesota, Morris to install a flow battery on their campus. This flow battery will capture their excess renewable energy generation and store it locally to be used by the University or the Morris community at a later time. The battery will also store energy during low-cost periods and dispatch energy during high-cost periods, saving all customers money. As partners, we're excited about the research opportunities provided by this project. The flow battery will support local renewables and provide insight into energy storage opportunities, enabling us to better manage the growing complexities of the grid for our customers. We expect the flow battery to be installed on campus and operational in late 2026.



# **Supporting electric vehicle adoption**

We continue expanding partnerships to create more efficient spaces with new electric technologies and options.

Potential electric vehicle (EV) owners often cite range anxiety as a barrier to purchase. Range anxiety is the fear of depleting an EV's battery and not having an accessible place to recharge. We're working to ease this anxiety and remove obstacles to EV adoption by making more charging stations accessible throughout our service area.

With approval from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, in 2024 we finished construction on 10 of 11 direct-current fast-charging sites throughout Minnesota. We're working to secure a site in Bemidji and plan to complete it in 2025.

These sites range in size from 50 kW to 180 kW and can add up to 100 miles of driving range in 12 to 40 minutes of charging.

Red Lake Falls
Crookston Erskine
Fertile
Mahnomen

Pelican
Rapids
Perham
Rapids
Pergus
Frazee
Pelican
Perry Perham
Rapids
Parkers Prairie
Falls
Wheaton
Morris
Appleton
Dawson
Canby

Lake Benton

100%
OF OUR MINNESOTA CUSTOMERS
WILL BE WITHIN

60 MILES

OF AN EV
CHARGING STATION



97%
OF OUR MINNESOTA CUSTOMERS
WILL BE WITHIN

30 MILES

OF AN EV

CHARGING STATION



# Economic development and value Protecting and improving the quality of life in our communities means

Protecting and improving the quality of life in our communities means helping them remain vibrant, attractive places to live and do business. The investments we make to carry out our mission have significant direct and indirect economic value.

# **Direct economic impact**

Total	\$716,534,794
Amount paid to suppliers and vendors	\$560,305,648
Interest paid	\$39,672,543
Wages and benefits paid to utility employees	\$100,895,026
Property taxes paid to local jurisdictions	\$15,661,577

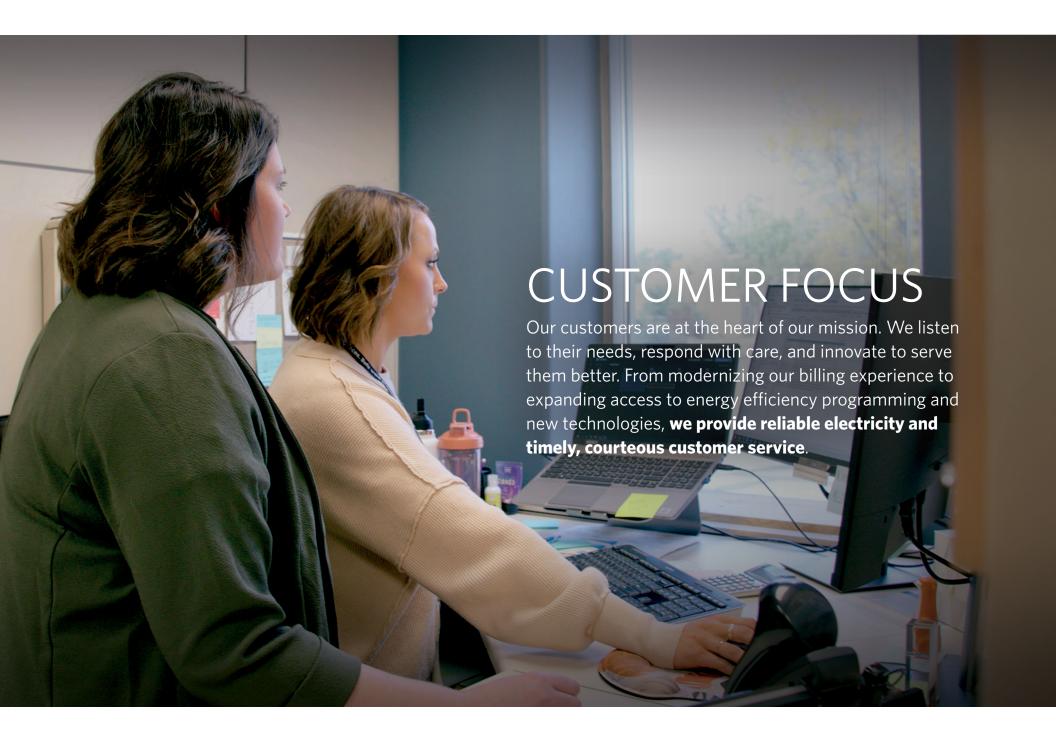
### Indirect economic impact

Total	\$326,623,337
Economic development spending	\$262,057
Rent	\$2,480,630
Labor spending on maintenance	\$13,270,678
New/replacement construction property	\$284,181,612
Labor spending on construction	\$26,428,360

# Vendor expenditures

	AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL
Minnesota	\$191,541,909	34.2%
North Dakota	\$88,875,591	15.9%
South Dakota	\$18,821,906	3.4%
Total for local vendors	\$299,239,406	53.5%
Total payments to all vendors	\$560,305,648	





### **Customers and their energy use**

STATE AND CATEGORY	CUSTOMERS	MWH ENERGY USE
Minnesota		
Residential	49,863	506,375
Farm	1,287	46,579
Commercial	10,489	330,549
Large commercial	471	1,811,277
Streetlighting	298	4,601
Governmental agencies	521	20,716
North Dakota		
Residential	45,463	554,454
Farm	1,035	41,686
Commercial	11,422	445,579
Large commercial	287	1,372,641
Streetlighting	306	7,517
Governmental agencies	576	17,215
South Dakota		
Residential	9,041	110,617
Farm	345	8,850
Commercial	2,308	82,237
Large commercial	70	288,535
Streetlighting	57	1,669
Governmental agencies	128	4,468
Total	133,967	5,655,565

# **Customer experience**

Our focus on customers is demonstrated through our projects, plans, and day-to-day work.

# **Applying customer feedback**

We request input on customers' needs and expectations through surveys, focus groups, and direct contacts, analyzing this information to better improve their experience with us.

We use research surveys to measure transaction-specific satisfaction with customers who've recently contacted our company. These surveys target all customer interactions—phone, web, mail, scheduled visits, and afterhours calls—and measure specific aspects of customers' experiences.

In August we began using a net promoter score to help us measure and evaluate customer sentiment through one simple question: How likely is it you'd recommend Otter Tail Power to a friend or colleague? Although determined by service area, we'd want our customers to choose us if they could.

On our website, otpco.com, we offer short surveys on key pages to help ensure our online content is helpful and valuable to customers. We launched these surveys in July 2024 and make regular website updates, both large and small, thanks to customer questions and recommendations.

Otter Voice is an online community of customers who volunteer to share feedback that helps us continue to provide exceptional service. Customers offer feedback on our current practices, preview new programs, and suggest improvements, allowing us to use direct feedback to design programs and options focused on addressing their obstacles.

Together, this ongoing feedback helps ensure we continue to fulfill our customers' evolving needs.

# **Providing new tools for more efficient service**

After nearly 40 years, it's the end of an era for our light blue electric bill. Since September 2024 the bills we send our customers have a new look. The new bill design, meant to help customers find the information they're looking for more quickly, features easy-to-read bill calculations and summarized energy use.

Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) is a technology upgrade that lays the groundwork for us to better meet our customers' needs for reliable



"Hearing from customers firsthand through our Otter Voice community was essential in the creation of our new bill design."

Joleen Schmit Customer Experience and Training Supervisor

service. When combined with the systems we have in place today—and those we've identified for future implementation—customers will have more visibility into their energy use (helping them save energy and money), and we'll be able to respond to outages faster and more precisely.

Long term, AMI helps us keep costs low (savings we pass along to our customers) and will provide insight into new on- or off-peak rate options that can help customers save money. We began installing advanced meters in late 2023 and plan to finish upgrading approximately 174,000 electric meters with meters that enable two-way communication with our systems in 2025.

# **Rates**

From investments in new technologies and infrastructure upgrades to programs that help customers conserve energy at home, we're focused on delivering safe, reliable energy at rates among the lowest in the nation. We understand rising electric costs can be challenging, and we continue to manage our rates through smart investments and streamlined operations.

We also provide several options for customers who might need help paying their electric bills. Our Even Monthly Payment plan averages energy use over the year, so customers pay the same amount each month—making budgeting easier. We provide information about energy assistance programs in each of the states we serve and offer payment plan arrangement and extension options. And through our Uplift program, Minnesota residential customers receiving Energy Assistance are eligible for credits on their electric bills. We remind customers throughout the year that if they're experiencing difficulties paying their electric bills to reach out to us as soon as they can so we can help them make a plan.

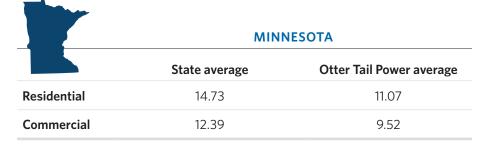
In December 2024 the North Dakota Public Service Commission approved a \$13.1 million net increase to our electric service rates. Our request to increase rates was a result of increased costs to maintain a safe and reliable system that meets growing electricity demand. Changes in our company's customer mix also contributed to the timing of the request. We filed our last North Dakota rate review request in 2017, and although overall costs of living have increased since our last rate review, this average net increase of 6.18% keeps our electric service rates among the lowest in the nation.

reliable, cost-effective electricity for our customers. As our employees continue to focus on operational excellence, working to keep costs as low as possible, we'll also continue providing options to help customers manage their energy use."



Tim Rogelstad President

# Average rate comparisons (cents per kWh)



NORTH DAKOTA		
State average	Otter Tail Power average	
11.01	10.41	
7.38	6.55	
	State average	

	SOUTH DAKOTA		
	State average	Otter Tail Power average	
Residential	12.32	11.12	
Commercial	10.16	7.68	

	UNITED STATES		
	United States average	Otter Tail Power average	
Residential	16.00	10.76 (weighted average)	
Commercial	12.59	7.62 (weighted average)	

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Total Electric Industry - Average Retail Price, October 2023

# **Energy efficiency and load management**

Our responsibility for efficient energy use doesn't stop at generation. To help our customers conserve energy and manage their electric bills, we offer education on efficient new technologies, provide rate information to help them calculate operating costs associated with energy use, and encourage participation in energy efficiency and load management programs.

# **Encouraging energy conservation**

In 2024 Minnesota customers saved 50,338 MWH and South Dakota customers saved 15,787 MWH of energy through our energy conservation programs. While we also offer energy-saving programs in North Dakota, we don't track MWH saved by North Dakota customers as the state doesn't currently have established energy-efficiency targets or mechanisms in place for cost recovery.

# **Partnering in load management**

About one third of our customers partner with us through our portfolio of off-peak discounted rates to create a high-performing load management program. Load management provides our customers with options to reduce their energy costs during periods of high energy demand. And it's a resource for our company that enhances system reliability and provides multiple methods of reducing costs, including avoiding high-priced energy purchases and delaying the need to build new energy generation resources.

Load management is accredited with MISO, reducing our company's capacity requirements. We pass these savings on to customers, helping us keep our prices among the lowest in the nation.

# **Providing efficiency from the ground up**

Our Integrated Building Design (IBD) Plus program focuses on energy efficiency across a building's lifetime. Through this program multidisciplinary teams work together to optimize energy efficiency, indoor air quality, and environmental sustainability of buildings.

Throughout 2024 we offered customers, field employees, and design team members free access to GeoFease, an online geothermal feasibility and

evaluation tool. We began the screening process for five new construction or major remodel projects through the IBD Plus program and closed four projects with construction completion and verification of qualifying energy-efficiency technologies.

### Power our customers can count on

We strive to minimize the frequency and duration of service interruptions. And we deploy field personnel as safely and quickly as possible to restore power to customers when interruptions occur.

We track our response to interruptions and normalize this data using the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers standards to account for storm anomalies or events.

We implemented a new Outage Management System (OMS) in 2023 and used OMS data for 2024 reliability indices reporting. This change improves data gathering accuracy, as the OMS measures interruption data at the customer level. Prior to OMS implementation, we collected data at the substation feeder breaker and couldn't measure customer-level interruptions. Our new OMS provides increased information for maintenance and upgrade needs.

We're continually investing in system enhancements, advanced technologies, and refined processes to strengthen service reliability for our customers. This includes improving our Customer Average Interruption Duration Index (CAIDI) performance to meet or exceed our goal.



# **2024 Power interruptions**

System Average Interruption Frequency Index (SAIFI)	GOAL
Sustained interruptions lasting	

more than five minutes during the year. <1.43

1.19

INTERRUPTIONS

**ACTUAL** 

**ACTUAL** 

<b>Customer Average Interruption</b>	
Duration Index (CAIDI)	GOAL

How long a customer's power was out during a sustained interruption. <108.5 MINUTES MINUTES

# System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI)

Duration Index (SAIDI)

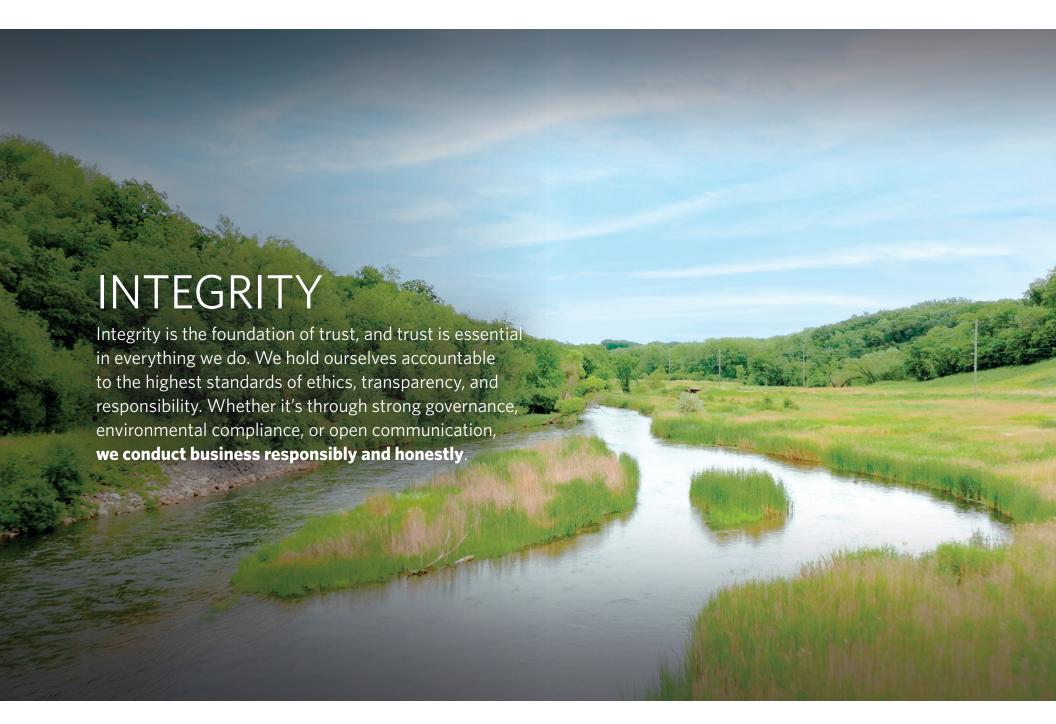
How long a customer's power was out during an entire year.

C155.08

MINUTES

MINUTES





# **Environmental responsibility**

We're mindful of our environmental impact across operations. As we work toward meeting our carbon and renewable energy goals, we're also reducing greenhouse gas emissions and responsibly managing our region's natural resources.

# **Reducing greenhouse gas emissions**

Below is our 2024 greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) inventory.

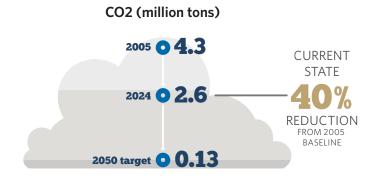
SCOPE	TOTAL CO2 EQUIVALENT EMISSIONS (metric tons)
Includes direct emissions from stationary combustion (OTP share only), company vehicles, and transmission/distribution equipment.	2,362,325
2 Includes electricity purchased for building use and line losses.	56,670
3 Includes only purchased electricity resold to end users.	1,049,145



Investments in pollution-control equipment and our changing generation mix have driven significant reductions in emissions of carbon dioxide (CO2), sulfur dioxide (SO2), nitrogen oxides (NOx), and mercury (Hg).

### Scope 1 CO2 emissions from owned generation

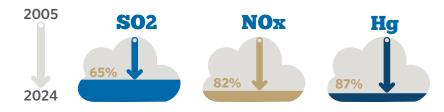
Goal: To reduce carbon emissions from owned generation resources 97% by 2050.



In an ever-changing landscape, goals are subject to various risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to changes in regulations, technological advancements, and market conditions.

# **Owned generation**

SO2, NOx, and Hg reduction from 2005:



# **Maintaining biodiversity**

From Minnesota's forested regions and 10,000 lakes to the plains of North Dakota and South Dakota, our service area is environmentally diverse. Humans and other species rely on healthy ecosystems for oxygen, water, and food. Before investing in new assets or operations, we assess environmental impacts to protect the biodiversity of our region.

# **Using water responsibly**

Some of our generation resources burn fuel to produce steam, which in turn powers turbines that generate electricity. Steam generation requires access to large volumes of water, and we employ several tactics to responsibly manage our water use, including recirculating cooling systems at Big Stone Plant and Coyote Station. These recirculating systems minimize water withdrawals, limit impacts to aquatic species near the source of water intake, and protect against discharge of large volumes of heated water.

# **Giving new life to waste**

An important aspect of environmental stewardship is properly transporting and disposing of the by-products from our generation facilities. The primary by-product we manage is coal combustion residuals (CCR), or coal ash. We look for opportunities to responsibly reuse our CCR in useful and appropriate applications, such as providing it to third parties for shingle grit and sandblasting media.

# Reporting and cleaning up spill events

Despite our commitment to sound environmental stewardship, accidents and uncontrollable events can occur. When they do, we correct them as quickly as possible. We train our employees to understand our environmental permit requirements and the steps they must take to maintain compliance. In the event of an accident or spill, we work with regulators to mitigate the instance and adjust related processes. Our Environmental Services department also operates a 24-hour spill-response line.

Typical spill-response measures include collection and disposal of contaminated soil, site restoration, oil testing for polychlorinated biphenyls, working with state agencies to document site conditions, and monitoring potential contaminant migration pathways such as storm sewers, ditches, and roadways.

# **Public policy proposals**

Fossil fuel-fired plants are subject to many evolving regulations. In May 2024 EPA finalized a series of regulations to further regulate electric generating units, including rules to address greenhouse gas emissions, mercury and air toxics, and CCR. However, in March 2025, EPA announced the agency will reconsider or re-evaluate these rules. We continue to monitor these developments closely and are committed to complying with any rules that are implemented.

# **Regional Haze Rule**

The Clean Air Act establishes a national visibility goal to prevent future and remedy existing human-caused visibility impairment in national parks, wilderness areas, and wildlife refuges. EPA's Regional Haze Rule requires states to periodically provide plans demonstrating how they have made, and will continue to make, reasonable progress toward achieving the goal to attain natural visibility conditions by 2064.

The first Regional Haze planning period covered the years 2008 through 2018. In 2015, during this Regional Haze planning period, we installed a new air-quality control system at Big Stone Plant. The system delivered an approximate 90% reduction in sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide emissions. Coyote Station reduced emissions by approximately 35% by installing separated over-fire air technology in 2016.

The second planning period covers the years 2019 through 2028. For this planning period, the Clean Air Act requires continued reasonable progress toward the natural visibility goal. The reasonable progress evaluation is required to focus on four factors: (1) The costs of compliance with additional controls, (2) the time it would take to install the controls, (3) the non-air-quality environmental impacts of the controls, and (4) the remaining useful life of the plant.

For the second planning period, both North Dakota and South Dakota proposed to EPA that it should not require additional controls from covered electric generation units. Ultimately, EPA is required to review and approve or reject each state's Regional Haze plan. In December 2024 EPA partially disapproved of the North Dakota plan, including North Dakota's proposed plans for Coyote Station. In April 2025 EPA announced they plan to

reconsider this decision. Additionally, in May 2025 EPA proposed approval of the South Dakota plan. We and our plant co-owners remain engaged with our states and EPA throughout this process.

# **Supply chain**

When it comes to external support, our suppliers are important as we execute our mission. We have five primary areas partnering with supply chains:

### Wind, solar, and combustion turbine sites

Software and information technology hardware, consulting and maintenance services, wind repowering and new solar equipment, and parts and equipment repair.

### Coal-fired plant sites

Fuel, fuel transportation, fuel reagents (pebble lime, powdered carbon, and anhydrous ammonia), operations monitoring and maintenance services, and engineering services.

### Purchased power

Capacity and energy from other utilities and the MISO energy market.

### Transmission and distribution materials

Poles, conductor wire, fiber-optic communications wire, connecting and insulating hardware, transformers, meters, and substation and switchyard construction services and equipment.

### Companywide services

Software and information technology hardware, system protection devices and technology, right-of-way and land management services, engineering services, environmental services, consulting services, contract labor (including project-based construction workers), recycling and disposal services, and communications and miscellaneous equipment.

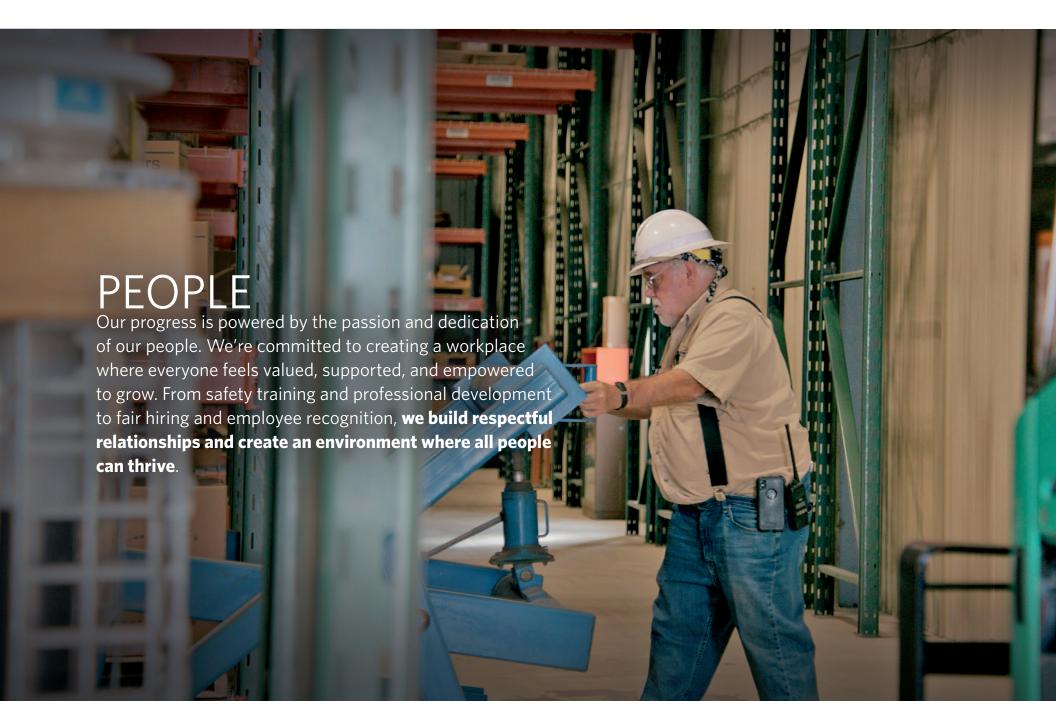
We evaluate our suppliers based on quality, experience, cost, safety performance, adherence to cybersecurity requirements, and other applicable business criteria.

We expect contractors to abide by the Otter Tail Power Company Contractor Code of Business Ethics, Otter Tail Power Company Contractor Safety Policy, and Otter Tail Corporation Human Rights Policy. Contractors must conform to applicable governmental permits, cybersecurity standards, licenses, and laws; meet or exceed all OSHA requirements; and meet or exceed all reporting requirements for the accidental release of hazardous materials.

# **Board oversight**

Otter Tail Corporation, the holding company of Otter Tail Power Company, has a Board of Directors committed to sound corporate governance practices and policies. In 2024 eight of the nine board members were independent, including all members of the Compensation and Human Capital Management, Corporate Governance, and Audit committees. An overview of the Corporation's governance practices and policies is available online at ottertail.com.

The Corporation's Proxy Statement provides further information about corporate governance practices and Committee roles. The Board, through the Corporation's Business Risk Management process, regularly reviews the Corporation's significant and emerging risks, including cybersecurity and climate change, and assesses the Corporation's plans to mitigate or manage those risks. The Compensation and Human Capital Management Committee oversees the management of human capital, including the policies and programs supporting workplace health and safety and those related to the attraction, development, and retention of talent (2025 Proxy Statement, page 25).



In 2024 we reinforced our employee experience priorities of:

- Fulfilling work: Providing opportunities to do interesting things with creative people.
- Connections and growth: Encouraging impactful relationships and developing skills.
- Compensation and benefits: Helping employees meet their financial, family, career, and lifestyle goals.

Our dedicated employees make Otter Tail Power the safe, efficient, and reliable company we are. We each play a part in powering life for our customers and communities—day or night, rain or shine. And we're passionate about continuing to be a great place to work.

# 219 NORTH DAKOTA 473 MINNESOTA Other states: 2

# Recruiting

We provide recruitment materials, including our Powerful Possibilities career guide, to educational institutions and other entities as outreach to potential employees, highlighting jobs in customer service, engineering, and plant and field operations.

Our Otter Tail Power Company Foundation partners with post-secondary institutions to provide industry-related scholarships they award to students like those pictured accepting scholarships for linework at Minnesota State Community and Technical College Wadena. In 2024 we finalized new scholarship agreements with partnering institutions to better match Foundation goals to invest in our current and future workforce. Beginning in 2024 for all scholarships provided by the Foundation, students must be enrolled full-time and demonstrate financial need. Recognizing financial stress can contribute to lower academic performance as students try to balance both school and jobs, we require students who receive a scholarship maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA as we work to provide support to students who need it. Additionally, preference must be given to students who are from our company's service area seeking a career in the power industry, including linework, plant technologies, and renewables.

We also have employees engaged with multiple advisory committees at area colleges.





# **Training**

We believe continuous learning is essential to personal growth, operational excellence, and public service. We're committed to providing training opportunities that empower employees at every stage of their careers. Through hands-on instruction, digital learning, and leadership engagement, we foster a culture where all people can thrive.

# **Learning through doing**

We continue to invest in early career development by providing a robust Apprentice Training program. Twice per year, we invite apprentices to our company's Fergus Falls-based training ground to learn new skills, enhance their capabilities, and hear of best practices from lead lineworkers, supervisory staff, and safety professionals. Through simulated circumstances, we provide apprentices with a safe environment to practice real-life activities while being coached and guided by professionals with more than 15 years of experience in the field. Over the years, this biannual training has also hosted students and community members to raise awareness and interest in the lineworker career.

# **Ensuring excellence**

As a company, we're responsible for educating employees on a variety of safety, legal, and ethical issues that affect our company's daily business. To fulfill this important responsibility, we provide a series of required online courses for employees.

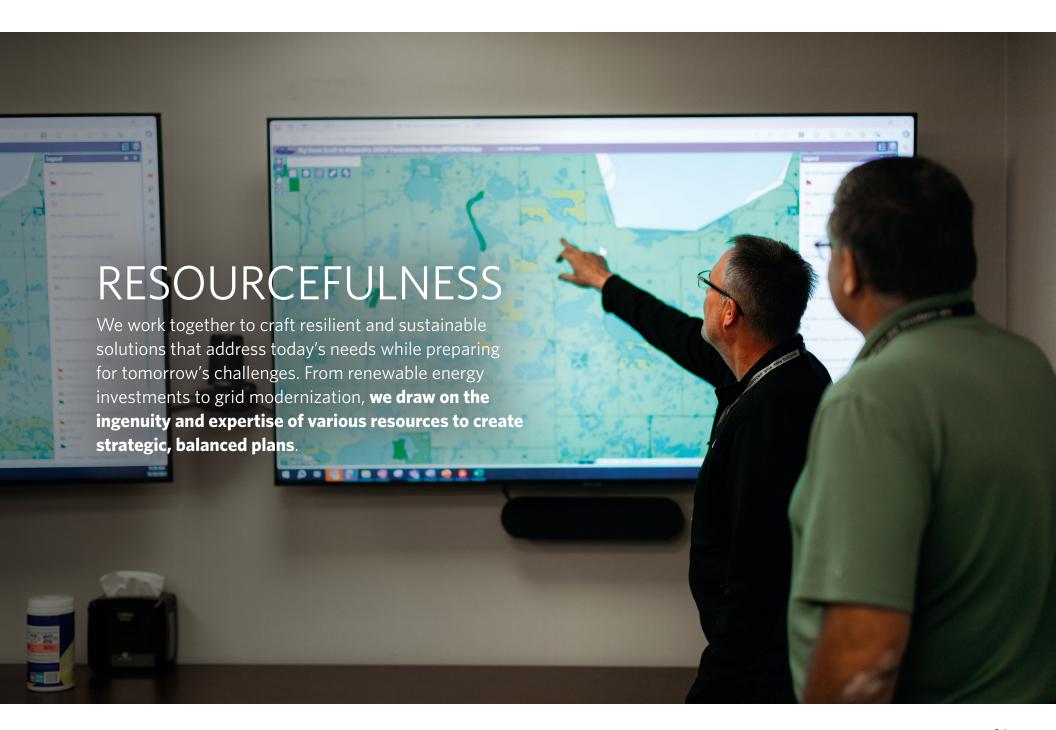
This year 822 employees enrolled in 11,108 required compliance training courses such as Basic First Aid, Drug-free Workplace, and FERC Standards of Conduct, completing 10,391 courses.

**822** EMPLOYEES



10,391

COMPLIANCE
TRAINING COURSES
COMPLETED



# **Energy generation mix**

There isn't a single electric generation technology that fully meets the need for reliable, low-cost, environmentally responsible electricity.

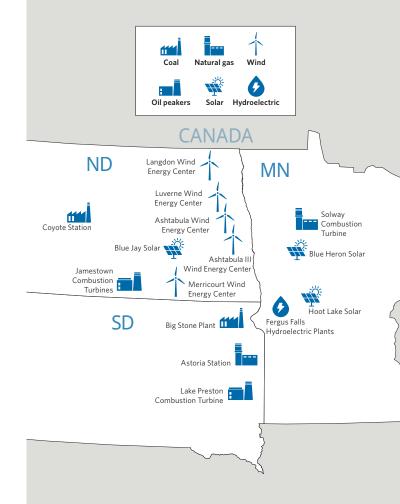
We produce electricity from coal, hydroelectric, natural gas, oil, solar, and wind facilities. Our energy generation mix includes the following types of resources.

- **Baseload:** Energy generated when called upon, and at a relatively constant output level, such as coal. These resources are ideal for providing a steady, reliable supply of electricity.
- **Intermittent:** Energy generated in intervals (not as continuous sources), such as renewables, which depend on the sun shining or the wind blowing.
- **Peaking:** Energy generation that can ramp up quickly, such as natural gas and oil. These resources fill gaps when customer demand for energy is high or conditions for renewable energy aren't ideal.

# Owned energy generation resources

	NAMEPLATE CAPACITY (MW)	FUEL SOURCE
total	475.0	Coal
lail Power	256.0	(sub-bituminous)
total	427.0	Coal
Tail Power	149.5	(lignite)
	249.7	Natural gas
	150.0	Wind
	62.4	Wind
	49.9	Solar
	49.5	Wind
	48.0	Wind
	42.4	Natural gas
	41.0	Oil
	40.5	Wind
	19.4	Oil
	2.6	Water
	≤0.1	Solar
	Tail Power	total 475.0 Tail Power 256.0 Tail Power 149.5 Tail Power 149.5 249.7 150.0 62.4 49.9 49.5 48.0 42.4 41.0 40.5 19.4 2.6

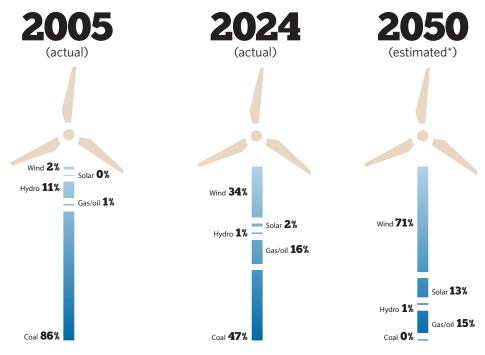
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Plant co-owners are Otter Tail Power (53.9%), NorthWestern Energy (23.4%), and Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (22.7%). We operate and maintain the plant on behalf of our co-owners.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Plant co-owners are Otter Tail Power (35%), Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (25%), Northern Municipal Power Agency (30%), and NorthWestern Energy (10%). We operate and maintain the plant on behalf of our co-owners.

### Energy generation mix by year

The energy created by our owned and contracted resources.



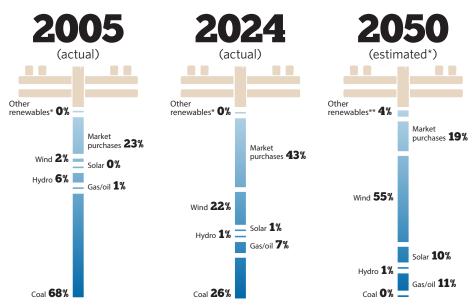
<sup>\*</sup> Estimation based on our 2022-2036 Integrated Resource Plan, which received Minnesota Public Utilities Commission approval in 2024. In an ever-changing landscape, goals are subject to various risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to changes in regulations, technological advancements, and market conditions.

# **Energy delivery mix**

We purchase electricity from the MISO energy market when buying it is more economical than generating it ourselves. MISO oversees energy delivery from utilities across the Central United States, including 15 states and the Canadian province Manitoba. It acts as an air traffic controller for the energy grid, ensuring utilities can generate and deliver the right amount of electricity to more than 45 million people.

### Energy delivery mix by year

The energy used to serve our customers, including MISO market purchases.



<sup>\*</sup> Estimation based on our 2022-2036 Integrated Resource Plan, which received Minnesota Public Utilities Commission approval in 2024. In an ever-changing landscape, goals are subject to various risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to changes in regulations, technological advancements, and market conditions.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Other renewables include future energy efficiency and battery storage (2050 only).

# **Resource planning**

Resource planning is an ever-evolving process. To ensure we continue to provide our customers with reliable, low-cost electricity, we continue to monitor developments that could impact our plan.

On May 30, 2024, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) approved our 2022-2036 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP).

### The MPUC decision:

- Allowed us to retain the reliability benefits of Coyote Station while running the portion of the plant used to serve our Minnesota customers for emergency purposes only. This will begin as soon as June 1, 2026, and end no later than 2031. At the time it ends, our Minnesota customers will no longer use the capacity or energy from Coyote Station. The MPUC's decision doesn't change how we operate Coyote Station to serve our North Dakota and South Dakota customers, even beyond 2031.
- Allowed us to begin creating project plans for replacement energy for the portion of Coyote Station used to serve our Minnesota customers—and to make progress toward the Minnesota Carbon Free Standard. We're developing plans for 200 to 300 (MW) of solar resources, which include the 50-MW Solway Solar and 295-MW Abercrombie Solar facilities, 150 to 200 MW of wind resources, and 20 to 75 MW of battery storage to be commercially operational between now and the end of 2029.



# Renewables

As we introduce new energy sources and technologies to our generation mix, our priority remains the same—meeting our customers' energy needs.

# Soaking up the sun

We're advancing plans to add 345 MW of solar to our energy generation fleet.

Solway Solar is a 50-MW solar generation facility we plan to build in Lammers Township near Solway, Minnesota. Depending on the timing of project approvals, we anticipate Solway Solar to be fully operational in 2026. This location offers an opportunity to add solar generation where transmission interconnection facilities already exist, which helps keep costs low for our customers. We estimate \$4.2 million in local and state tax benefits over the 35-year life of the facility, with approximately 70 construction jobs during the peak of the nine-month construction period.

Abercrombie Solar is a 295-MW solar generation facility under development in Abercrombie Township northwest of Wahpeton, North Dakota. We signed an agreement with Flickertail Solar Project, LLC. to buy the development assets—once it has received permits and regulatory approvals and met other contractual requirements—with the intention of building the project. If the agreement reaches closing, we expect it to be

"Combined with our existing low-cost generation resources, these economic solar facilities will help us continue to provide cost-effective electricity to our customers."

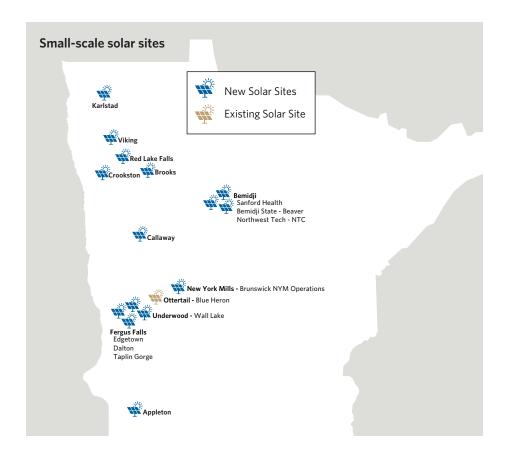


Brad Tollerson Vice President of Energy Supply

complete in 2028 and we estimate the project to provide \$23.8 million in local and state tax benefits over the 35-year life of the facility and create approximately 300 jobs at peak construction.

In the second quarter of 2025, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission approved cost recovery for both Abercrombie Solar and Solway Solar to serve customers in their respective states. The North Dakota Public Service Commission approved an IRP action plan in 2024 that didn't include additional solar resources.

In 2024 we partnered across our Minnesota service area to install 15 small-scale solar arrays on company and customer properties. These projects showcase the potential for solar energy and help us meet the state's small-scale solar energy objectives.



# Harnessing the wind

We're upgrading and refurbishing wind turbines at four of our owned wind energy centers. We repowered the Langdon Wind Energy Center in late 2024 and plan to finish equipment upgrades at our Ashtabula, Ashtabula III, and Luverne Wind Energy Centers by the end of 2025.

By selecting projects that leverage renewable tax credits and benefit from the zero fuel costs of renewable resources, we demonstrate our commitment to affordability. Once complete, we expect this wind repowering to provide approximately 164 GWh of additional energy—the equivalent of a new 40-MW facility.



# Transmission and distribution

Generating energy is the first step in providing electricity to our customers. The second step is safely, efficiently, and reliably delivering that electricity to our customers via our wholly or jointly owned 6,352 miles of transmission lines and 7,877 miles of distribution lines.

# **Investing in grid resilience**

Our customers count on us to meet their rapidly growing energy needs and look to us to ensure a resilient energy grid. We, along with energy companies throughout the region, have been working closely with MISO over many years to develop transmission solutions as the region's grid continues to evolve.

### **How transmission improvements benefit our customers**

- Ensured electric reliability.
- Increased resilience to extreme weather events.
- Reduced transmission congestion.
- Increased access to low-cost energy.



Long-range transmission planning is necessary to ensure an efficient, reliable, and cost-effective regional and interregional transmission system. We're coordinating with stakeholders throughout our service area as we develop projects to meet the energy needs of our communities.

MISO conducted studies for the first portfolio of transmission projects which was approved in July 2022. MISO's Long Range Transmission Plan indicated that this portfolio, totaling more than 2,000 miles of new transmission, will bring two to four times more benefits than costs over the next 20 years. Specific to our area are two new 345-kV transmission lines.

The **Jamestown to Ellendale 345-kV transmission line** will run approximately 92 miles between our Jamestown substation and Montana-Dakota Utilities' (MDU) Ellendale substation in North Dakota. We're leading development and construction while working closely with MDU, our co-owner on the transmission line.

In 2023 we began project development, coordinating with residents, business and property owners, agencies, and other interested stakeholders to determine a potential route. The North Dakota Public Service Commission (ND PSC) approved the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity in November 2024. We aim to submit a route permit to the ND PSC in the third quarter of 2025 and are targeting an in-service date by the end of 2028.

The **Big Stone South to Alexandria to Big Oaks** 345-kV transmission line consists of two segments, with one running between Big Stone City, South Dakota, and Alexandria, Minnesota (western segment), and the other between Alexandria and Becker, Minnesota (eastern segment). The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) approved our Certificate of Need for the project in October 2024.

"These projects are crucial to meeting the growing energy needs of our customers while ensuring

continued electric reliability, enhanced resiliency to extreme weather events, reduced transmission congestion, and increased access to low-cost energy."



JoAnn Thompson Vice President of Asset Management

The **Big Stone South to Alexandria** western segment will connect our Big Stone South substation and Missouri River Energy Services' (MRES) Alexandria substation. We'll co-own the approximately 100-mile line with MRES and lead development and construction. The South Dakota Public Utilities Commission approved our Facility Permit for the South Dakota portion of the line in January 2025. In Minnesota, we filed our Route Permit Application in October 2024 and expect a decision from the MPUC in mid-2026. We're targeting an end of 2030 in-service date for this 345-kV line.

The **Alexandria to Big Oaks** eastern segment is the addition of the second 345-kV circuit to the existing Fargo to Twin Cities CapX2020 transmission line between the existing Alexandria substation owned by MRES and a new substation called Big Oaks near Becker, Minnesota, which will be owned by Xcel Energy. We'll co-own the approximately 105-mile line with Xcel Energy, Great River Energy (GRE), Minnesota Power, and MRES. Xcel Energy is leading development and construction. The MPUC approved the route permit and Certificate of Need; we anticipate construction to begin spring 2025 and be complete by the end of 2027.

The second portfolio of transmission projects, announced in December 2024, includes three specific to our area. We've just started planning for these projects and look forward to connecting with landowners, communities, and other stakeholders in 2025.

The **Maple River to Cuyuna** transmission line will be a new 345-kV line from the Fargo, North Dakota, area to nearby Crosby, Minnesota. We'll co-own this line with GRE and Minnesota Power and are estimating completion in 2033.

The **Bison to Alexandria** transmission line will add a second circuit conductor to the existing 345-kV transmission line from the Bison substation near Fargo, North Dakota, to the Alexandria substation in Minnesota. We're estimating an in-service date of 2032 and will co-own this line with GRE, Minnesota Power, MRES, and Xcel Energy.

**PowerOn Midwest** is a new 765-kV transmission line we're developing in collaboration with GRE, ITC Midwest, and Xcel Energy. The line will run from Northeast South Dakota and across the southern portion of Minnesota and end in Wisconsin near Madison. While 765-kV transmission has been used in other parts of the United States for decades, this voltage size will be a first for our service area. This larger transmission

line can carry the same amount of electricity as six single-circuit 345-kV transmission lines, maximizing efficient use of land and reducing overall impact on landowners. PowerOn Midwest will connect the following substations:

- Big Stone South (Northeast South Dakota)
- Brookings (Eastern South Dakota)
- Lakefield Junction (Southwest Minnesota)
- Pleasant Valley (Southeast Minnesota)
- North Rochester (Southeast Minnesota)
- Columbia (near Madison, Wisconsin)

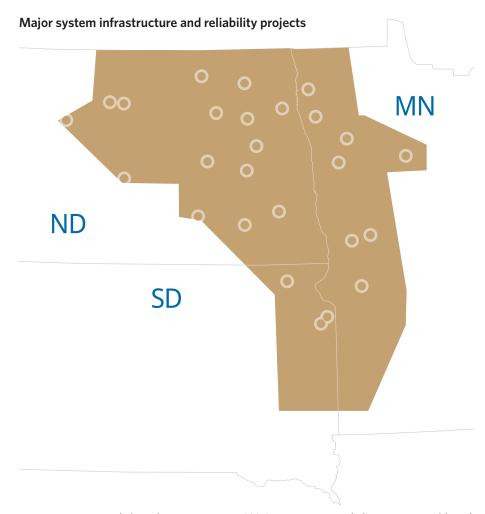
We're also developing the **Big Stone South to Hankinson to Bison** transmission line in collaboration with Xcel Energy. This 345-kV transmission line would run from our Big Stone South substation in South Dakota to our Hankinson substation in North Dakota, then continue to Xcel Energy's Bison substation near Fargo. Big Stone South to Hankinson to Bison will provide reliable connections and reduce congestion along the boundaries between the MISO and Southwest Power Pool grids. It will be partially funded by U.S. Department of Energy grants, lowering long-term costs for customers.

In addition to these major transmission projects, we're working on several local 230-kV and 115-kV transmission projects to help alleviate local and regional transmission congestion and ensure reliability.

All of these projects will require approval from state and local regulatory agencies. We're looking forward to continuing to build relationships with landowners, communities, tribes, and other stakeholders during project development.

# Improving system infrastructure and reliability

Inspecting and maintaining the infrastructure we rely on to transmit and deliver electricity is as critical as performing maintenance on a vehicle. Making sure we're repairing or replacing infrastructure ahead of potential breakdowns or failure starts with understanding the overall health of our existing assets and the process to replace those assets. In 2022 we doubled our traditional annual capital spending in the replacement of aging



transmission and distribution assets. We've maintained this increased level of capital investment.

One asset health investment is our Strategic Overhead to Underground program for local distribution lines. In this program we take aging and underperforming overhead distribution lines and put them underground, which removes many of the causes (such as vegetation, weather, and animals) for overhead service interruptions. In 2024 this program represented more than 15% of our overall asset health and replacement spending.

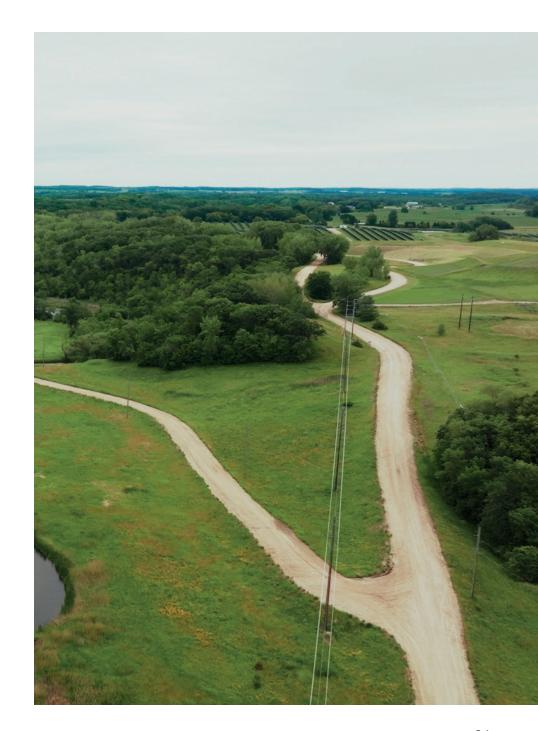
Our overhead to underground ratio is approximately 76% overhead distribution lines and 24% underground distribution lines. Burying distribution lines in some areas of our electric system can provide both reliability and economic benefits. However, not all locations and lines are good candidates, depending on line performance and economics. And burying transmission lines is generally not feasible.

We continue exploring transmission and distribution technologies for more efficient and responsible operations. This includes remote fault sensing and monitoring, artificial intelligence, satellite imagery, drones, and new sectionalizing technology.

In 2024 we signed a contract with North Dakota for approximately \$4.4 million in state-allocated funds for Next-Generation Grid Resiliency, a program aimed at improving reliability. These funds were allocated from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to the state of North Dakota, who in turn awarded them to sub-recipients. After signing the contract, we began assessing transmission and distribution assets throughout the state. After reviewing the assessments, we began mitigation work in 2025.

Improving reliability also includes decreasing risks associated with natural events like storms and wildfires. While less than 10% of our service area has been identified as a moderate to high-risk fire area according to FEMA's Wildfire National Risk Index, we've developed preventative and responsive processes to help reduce wildfire risk.

With the assistance of an external expert, we've completed our Wildfire Mitigation Plan to address landscape and environmental risks associated with wildfires. This plan includes identification and assessment of areas in our system that may be prone to wildfires, use of internal and external sources to evaluate and mitigate risks, programs to reduce wildfire hazards, work practices aimed at mitigating identified risks, enhancement of protocols for effective mitigation, employee training on wildfire safety and operational responsibilities, and engagement with community members and stakeholders in wildfire mitigation efforts.





# Creating a safety culture

Each year all employees complete a series of required online safety courses to ensure they're equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to maintain a safe working environment.

Approximately 425 employees companywide are trained in CPR and first aid. Approximately 375 employees working in the field and at our power plants participate in monthly safety meetings, job briefings, and other training to discuss safe work practices.

We hold an Annual Safety Roundtable for approximately 100 safety committee leaders, people leaders, and new employees to discuss ways to improve safety. Internal and external speakers address safety-related topics, and employees who attend the Safety Roundtable share the information they learn with other employees and work groups.

When hired, all company power plant workers complete rigorous safety training, followed by ongoing refresher sessions and monthly safety meetings. They also hold first aid and CPR certifications.

In addition, Big Stone Plant and Coyote Station have emergency response teams who complete monthly training on hazardous materials handling, firefighting, emergency medical technician/advanced first aid, high-angle rescue, and confined-space rescue. These emergency response teams also are available to contractors working on plant sites.

In 2024 our safety team attended safety meetings, apprentice lineworker training, and journeyman lineworker training to share safety information with employees. Topics ranged from mental health, traffic control, and personal protective equipment to complacency, switching procedures, and wire stringing.

Management and union representatives work together on our safety program and rule book. The rule book includes topics such as working on or near energized equipment, hazard communications, confined space, linework practices, and switching, tagging, and grounding. And a team of employees assists company decision makers by providing research on procedures, policies, equipment, and regulations to support safety-related

decisions. This helps us improve cross-departmental communication related to operations, equipment, and training.

Behavior-based observations are a process through which our work groups identify, measure, and change safety behaviors. Observers provide employees with feedback, including positive reinforcement for safe behavior or coaching and guidance regarding unsafe behavior.

### Safety performance

	OTTER TAIL POWER		EEI PEERS
	2024 Goal	2024 Actual	2023 Average*
Lost-time injury rate	.30 (2 cases)	.12 (1 case)	.52
Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recordable injury rate Total number of cases x 200,000 ÷ total number of hours worked.	1.35	1.34	1.34
Preventable vehicle accidents Total number of accidents x 1,000,000 ÷ total number of miles driven.	2.3 (10 cases)	1.12 (5 cases)	2.61 (2022 data)

<sup>\* 2024</sup> EEI peer information was not yet available at the time we published this report.

# **Celebrating safety success**

Our safety recognition program rewards employees for a wide range of proactive safety activities, including leading safety indicators such as creating safer work practices or developing safety-related training. This program recognizes employees who demonstrate an exceptional commitment and achievement toward safety and health practices—making our company a safer place to work. Coworkers or supervisors can nominate employees for a Safety Recognition Award.

In October 2024 Big Stone Plant received the 2023 South Dakota Governor's Workplace Safety Award for Meritorious Achievement in occupational injury prevention. Eligibility for this award is based on the OSHA rate and the development of robust safety programs. A key factor in achieving this recognition is an improving safety record and a decreasing injury rate.

Also, in October Coyote Station received the 2023 Lignite Energy Council's Safety Excellence Award. This award is given to facilities with the lowest OSHA accident rate for the calendar year, with no fatalities or work-related accidents that prevent individuals from returning to work. The plant achieved an OSHA accident rate of 0.0 in 2023 compared to the national average of 1.2 for coal-fired power generating plants. Coyote Station hasn't had a recordable injury since 2022 or a lost time incident since 2000.



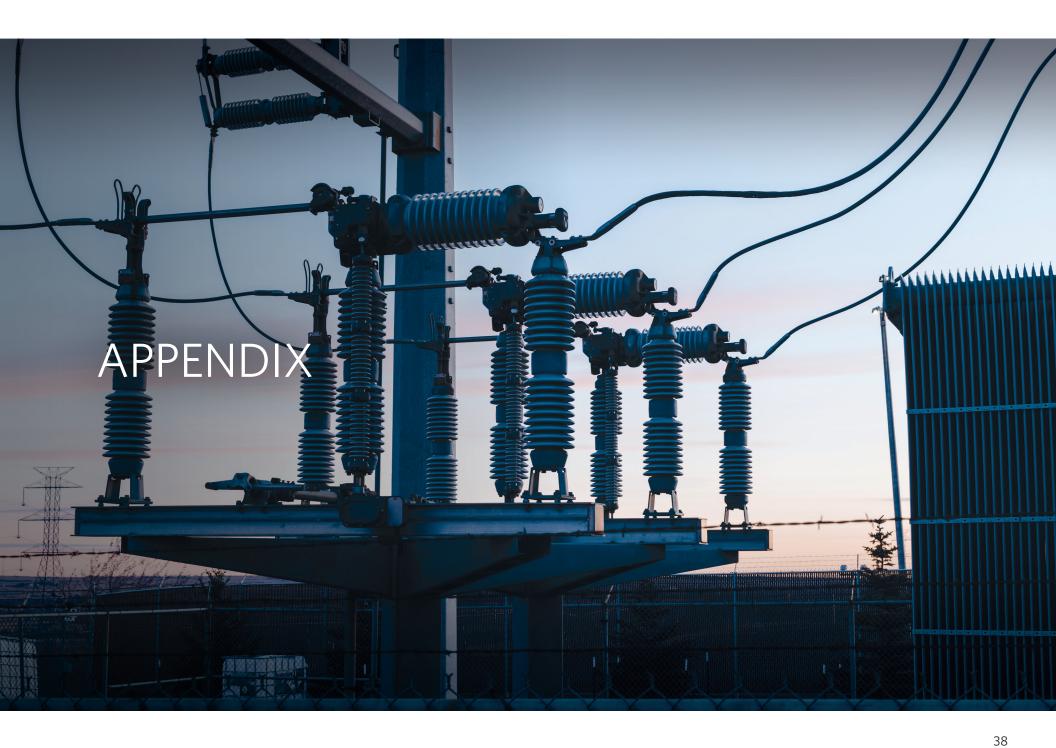
# Safeguarding our digital infrastructure

Cybersecurity incidents pose a threat to customer, employee, and vendor data privacy and reliable operation of the electric system. To mitigate risks we steadfastly adopt, revise, and maintain policies, processes, controls, and technologies to address physical, electronic, and information threats. We test these policies, processes, controls, and technologies regularly with internal and external resources. And we actively participate on boards of directors and in programs and organizations designed to keep cybersecurity at the forefront, including:

- Midwest Reliability Organization (MRO) Board of Directors
- MRO Reliability Advisory Council
- MRO and MISO working groups and committees
- Edison Electric Institute (EEI) working groups and committees
- EEI Culture of Security peer review
- Cyber Mutual Assistance (CMA) program
- Midwest Transmission Assistance Group
- SPAREConnect

We've also participated in North American Electric Reliability Corporation GridEx security exercises since their inception in 2011 and have been a participant in numerous emergency preparedness exercises at state and local levels. We're focused on managing and mitigating risk to ensure our company remains prepared to reliably serve our customers and protect their data.

The Otter Tail Corporation 10-K includes additional cyber security disclosures.



# **About this report**

Otter Tail Power Company has reported on our impact to the employees, customers, and communities we serve for 12 consecutive years.

This report reflects 2024 year-end data, unless otherwise indicated.

# **Forward-looking statements**

This report may include forward-looking statements made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The words "anticipate," "believe," "can," "could," "estimate," "expect," "future," "goal," "intend," "likely," "may," "opportunity," "outlook," "plan," "possible," "potential," "predict," "probable," "projected," "should," "target," "will," "would" and similar words and expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements and involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties that may cause our actual results in current or future periods to differ materially from the forecasted assumptions and expected results. Forward-looking statements made herein, which include anticipated levels of energy generation from renewable resources, anticipated reductions in carbon dioxide emissions, future investments and capital expenditures, rate base levels and rate base growth, future raw materials costs, future raw materials availability and supply constraints, future operating revenues and operating results, and expectations regarding the outcomes of regulatory proceedings, as well as other assumptions and statements, involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties that may cause our actual results in current or future periods to differ materially from the forecasted assumptions and expected results.

Risks are more fully described in Otter Tail Corporation's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the Corporation's most recently filed <u>Annual Report on Form 10-K</u>, as updated in subsequently filed <u>Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q</u>, as applicable. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made, and we expressly disclaim any obligation to update any forward-looking information.



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