

OPPD Board Approves Power Pole Purchase

(KTNC)--The Omaha Public Power District Board of Directors has voted to buy steel poles for three transmission projects in southeast Nebraska.

The OPPD Board approved a contract, totaling nearly \$14.5 million, with TransAmerica Power Products of Houston, Texas, to purchase steel poles for the Nebraska portion of the Midwest Transmission Project. The project will eventually run 180 miles, connecting OPPD's substation near Nebraska City to KCP-and-L's substation near Sibley, Missouri.

The Nebraska portion of the project is 45 miles long, running through portions of Otoe, Nemaha, and Richardson Counties.

OPPD Directors heard this month that the effort to acquire easements for the transmission line is progressing, with approximately 50-percent of the required easements secured.

The contract with TransAmerica will also allow OPPD to buy steel poles for two other projects. Those projects will allow 23 miles of aging 69-kilovolt transmission line to be rebuilt between Brock and Peru and between Peru and the Cooper Nuclear Station south of Brownville.

To build the lines, the board authorized the use of eminent domain to acquire necessary easements only after all reasonable efforts have been made to acquire easements voluntarily.

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