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Board Report - March/April

OMPA MEMBER CITIES

Altus, Blackwell, Comanche, Copan, Cordell, Duncan, Edmond, Eldorado, Fairview, Fort Supply, Frederick, Gearsy, Goltry, Granite, Hominy, Kingfisher, Laverne, Lexington, Mangum, Manitou, Marlow, Mooreland, Newkirk, Okeene, Olustee, Orlando, Pawhuska, Perry, Ponca City, Pond Creek, Prague, Purcell, Ryan, Spiro, Tecumseh, Tonkawa, Walters, Watonga, Waynoka, Wetumka, Wynnewood, Yale. Also serving Clarksville, Arkansas, Paris, Arkansas, and Electra, Texas.

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OMPA is a wholesale power company owned by 42 municipal electric utilities. OMPA provides economies of scale in power generation and related services to support community-owned electric utilities. The members of OMPA serve approximately 250,000 Oklahomans. This publication is issued by OMPA as authorized by the OMPA General Manager. 425 copies have been prepared and distributed at a cost of \$700. [74 O.S. § 3105(B)]

APPA Rodeo

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outlet

news from your Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority

Video Shoot In Prague



Caleb Bradford with the City of Prague was filmed for a video recognizing National Lineman Appreciation Day in April. Bradford and Sean Wrestler each appeared in the video, which was shared on social media. For more on Public Power in Oklahoma, go to ourlocalpower.org.

Ditto updates members

American Public Power Association (APPA) CEO Joy Ditto spoke about her organization's 2022 agenda at the OMPA Annual Meeting in Edmond in March.

Ditto, who took over as CEO at the start of 2020, said existing challenges are a mix of trending new issues, combined with new aspects of old issues. At the forefront of the concerns is ever-changing expectations customers have.



Joy Ditto

"We have long understood key accounts and industrial accounts want options," Ditto said. "But it's the residential customers who are starting to want a customized approach, everywhere from the spectrum of 'don't change anything' to 'I want solar panels and I want to know my usage everyday'."

Other challenges the APPA is focused on this year include addressing the regulatory arena with regard to climate change, managing hazards related to weather, incorporation digitalization and staying ahead of

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MESO Award Winners Include OMPA, Edmond, Kingfisher



Three people representing OMPA member cities and one OMPA staffer were honored by the Municipal Electric Systems of Oklahoma (MESO) at the 2022 Public Power Conference in Norman in April. Winners of the Drake Rice Customer Service Award were Kingfisher's Denise Payne and OMPA's Jennifer Rogers Smith. Winner of the Ray Duffy Award was Kingfisher's Mark Gambill. The recipient of the Pruett-Lamb Lifetime Achievement Award was Edmond's Dean Sherrick.

Electric departments from Ponca City, Marlow receive honors from the APPA



100 YEARS OF LIGHTING THE WAY!



Ponca City lineworkers were among the award recipients at the American Public Power Association's 12th annual Public Power Lineworker's Rodeo in Austin in March.

Tomas Alvarez, Chris Crain and Cory Waite from Ponca City Energy placed second in the Journeyman Hurtman Rescue competition. They were part of 55 teams from not-for-profit, community-owned electric utilities across the nation who participated. The rodeo is a series of competitive events demonstrating lineworker skills and safe work practices.

"I don't think you'll find anyone prouder of their craft than lineworkers," said Alex Hofmann, vice president of technical and operations services at APPA. "Seeing them out there demonstrating their skill with a focus on safety is awesome. The rodeo promotes comradery and helps support mutual aid," he added.

The awards honor lineworkers' expertise, and the events are judged based upon safety, work practices, neatness, ability, equipment handling, and timely event completion.

All safety rules established by APPA's Safety Manual were observed during events.

There are two levels of competition



Ponca City linemen placing at the APPA rodeo included Tomas Alvarez, Chris Crain and Cory Waite.



within the rodeo -- journeyman and apprentice. The journeyman teams consist of three members -- two climbers and a ground person -- and can include an optional alternate.

Marlow Reliability Recognized

The American Public Power Association's safety awards recognize utilities with the lowest safety incidence rate within their groups. Groups are determined by worker-hours of exposure.

Among the 2021 honorees was the City of Marlow. They came in second place in Group A, which is reserved for utilities with less than 15,000 worker hours of exposure.

Marlow's Electric Superintendent is Chris Dilbeck and the city manager is Jason McPherson. The department

has won the Don Howland Electric Operations and Safety Award five times since 2008 and has previously placed first in this safety awarded handed out by the APPA.

Each year, the Safety Awards are open to any APPA member utility, Joint Action Agency, Federal Agency, and State Association/Agency that wishes to participate. Entries are sorted into groups according to the total number of hours worked by all electric utility employees at that particular utility in the designated year.

Awards are given out to the participating eligible utilities with the lowest incidence rate within each group. The incidence rate is calculated by using a standardized U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) formula. This formula was developed to give a relative number of accidents that an organization might expect if it had 100 employees.

Back from the annual Board Retreat

This edition of the Outlet includes several examples of the tremendous talent within the OMPA family. I want to pass along my congratulations to the member city personnel who were recognized by APPA and MESO.

It was very exciting to see the team from Ponca City place 2nd in their event at the APPA linemen's rodeo in Austin. The competition is

General Manager's Report

David W. Osburn



very strong at these events, so it shows

how good they are.

Briefly, the OMPA Board of Directors held the annual planning retreat at Quartz Mountain in April. It was a day and half of very good discussion on OMPA's power supply, services, and strategic issues. We will be compiling the key issues and incorporating them into our upcoming Business Plan.

Be safe and enjoy the spring weather.

Board Reports

Highlights From March 2022 Board of Directors Meeting

- Approved annual CPI adjustment for Capacity Purchase Agreement with generating cities
- Approved CUP recertification for Edmond Public Works Authority for two awards valued at 1.5 points
- Approved CUP Interim Review award to Perry Municipal Authority for one award valued at 1 point
- Approved Field Services Agreement with City of Walters
- Approved upgrade to OSI SCADA system in the amount of \$172,050
- Approved amendment to the 2022 Capital Budget pertaining to expenses related to the Turk power plant

Highlights From April 2022 Board of Directors Meeting

- Approved CUP recertification awards to Goltry Public Works Authority and Altus Municipal Authority for one award valued at 0.75 points and two awards valued at 1.5 points, respectively
- Heard presentation on 2021 Fiscal Audit and approved audit report assembled by Baker-Tilly

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled to be held at 9:30 a.m. on May 12 at OMPA offices in Edmond.

Board members re-elected at Annual Meeting

Three members of the OMPA Board of Directors were re-elected to their positions, while a fourth was confirmed by the membership, at the Annual Meeting in March.

Gary Jones of Altus, Kimberly Meek of Duncan and Dixie Johnson of Perry were all re-elected, while Dave Andren of Mangum was confirmed.

The Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority Board of Directors is an 11-seat Board that is elected entirely by electors at the Annual Meeting each year. All 42 of OMPA's members have an elector that can vote at the elections.

Jones has been the city manager at Altus since 2019. He previously served as State Auditor and Inspector under Gov. Mary Fallin from 2011-2014, as well as Chair of the Oklahoma Republican Party from 2007-2010 and as Comanche County Commissioner from 1994-1998.

Meek has been the City Manager of Duncan since 2016. She previously was the City Manager at Guymon, where she also served as city clerk and finance director. In 2020, she was named the Oklahoma Municipal League's Woman of the Year.

Johnson has been the city clerk at Perry since 2011. She



Gary Jones



Kimberly Meek

has worked for the city since 2002, and has served as their coordinator for the Competitive Utility Program (CUP), as well as on OMPA's Energy Services Committee.

Andren has been the city manager at Mangum since 2018. Before that, he was assistant city manager in the City of Crescent, and spent 20 years in the U.S. Air Force.



Dixie Johnson



Dave Andren

City Update

Edmond set for lake renovation

The city of Edmond has started to make plans into renovating the lake. Arcadia Lake is about to get a \$2 million facelift.

"Think of this as a scaled-down MAPS project of Arcadia Lake and East Edmond," said Alex Allen, Arcadia Lake Dream Team member.

The city of Edmond plans to use ARPA funds to improve and grow the lake's infrastructure.

"This isn't just how to monetize the lake, but anyone that's been out there — we're at maximum capacity. If you



edmondelectric
The POWER of Edmond

go somewhere to enjoy yourself with your family, you can't find a campsite. You can't even get into the park," Allen said.

Wanting to know what to improve, the city created a task force of people who use the lake regularly.

"We came up with different things like dredging out the lake to not commercializing because it's a hidden gem," Allen said.

Landplan Consultants was hired for the job.

"Our job is to master plan the lake to take all the dreams and hopes

that the task force helped out with," said Julie Graff, president of Landplan Consultants.

They said master plans will be finalized in a year but only after hearing from the public.

"We may be able to go out for public input a little earlier than that and then complete the master plan within one year. It's different from other commercialized locations, we don't want to overdevelop or overbuild. We do want people to come out and enjoy what's there," Graff said.

City manager settling in

For the first time in 20 years, the City of Edmond has a new city manager.

The Edmond City Council approved hiring Scot Rigby during a Feb. 1 special meeting, and he officially

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Annual Meeting: Continued from Page 1

workforce availability concerns.

“We need to acknowledge the need for ongoing education, given the lack of understanding of electricity generation, transmission and distribution in general, as well as a lack of understand of the public power business model,” Ditto said. “That can lead to those buyout and sellout discussions, if you aren’t consistently educating. And that’s a challenge.”

Before becoming CEO, Ditto had previously served as the president and CEO of the Utilities Technology Council, which is a global trade association that partly represents electric utilities. She has testified before the U.S. Senate and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and is a past chair of the National Energy Resources Organization. She also sits on the board of the Electrical Safety Foundation International.

She provided the membership with a brief overview of the APPA, noting the paths the organization crosses with OMPA. That includes Board Chairman Homer Nicholson sitting on the Policy Maker’s Council, OMPA General Manger Dave Osburn and board member Jason McPherson of Marlow sitting on the APPA’s board and three OMPA personnel – Andrea Simmons, Palma Lough and Michael Watt – all sitting on committees for the APPA. The city of Edmond also is certified in the APPA’s RP3 program, which is a best practices designation.

“When we advocate for public power, we do so at the national level. We will weigh in on an informational matter or testify on a state-level, as well as when there is a discussion about municipalization we have a ton of information that we can bring,” Ditto said. “Similarly, if there is a buyout or sellout conversation, we are more likely to weigh in on conversations around the public power business model.”

The APPA CEO said her



American Public Power Association CEO Joy Ditto speaks at the OMPA Annual Meeting in Edmond in March.

organization is constantly thinking about the future, and that public power utilities should be doing the same.

“What is the future of our business and how can we at APPA help you guys think about how to position yourselves for the future?” she asked. “We also evaluate some of the new elements of the future, like hydrogen development or electric vehicles. What does that mean for Public Power?”

GM provides year in review

OMPA General Manager Dave Osburn told the membership about some of the challenges the Authority faced in 2021, while providing updates about future power supply.

OMPA completed its process for managing the expenses that were accrued from a winter storm in February of 2021, but other changes also occurred with the shuttering of power plants, including Dolet Hills in 2021 and Pirkey scheduled for 2023. The estimated cost for the decommissioning of those two plants – as well as Oklaunion, which closed in 2020 – is \$25.7 million.

New generation set to be added to OMPA’s resource mix includes a

solar farm scheduled to go online in May of 2024. It is a 120-megawatt project located in Kiowa County in southwest Oklahoma. Its existence will give OMPA members an opportunity to help some of their customers with sustainability goals meet their quotas.

Osburn said discussions with the board are ongoing about how the resource mix can become more flexible so that it isn’t as reliable on natural gas.

“This is not new. We started talking about this 10 years ago,” he said. “But Uri opened our eyes to how bad it can be, especially with regard to a reliability standpoint.”

Osburn listed a number of items that will be priorities for OMPA in the next 1-3 years. They included the managing of plant closures and their decommissioning expenses, cybersecurity challenges, addressing winter storm weatherization requirements and implementing a new business plan for the Authority.

He also talked about the expanding Field Services Department, which has opened a second location in the southern part of the state in Marlow and is reviewing options for a third site somewhere in the northern part of the state.

Tecumseh Is An Our Local Power Champion



Jennifer Rogers Smith, right, presents an award to the City of Tecumseh and City Manager Jimmy Stokes for being chosen as the 2021 Our Local Power Champion. Tecumseh is one of 62 public power utilities in Oklahoma and joined OMPA in 1986.

Breakout sessions provide look at programs suite

OMPA members were given a look at an expansive programs offering provided through a fellow joint action agency at the Annual Meeting in March.

Mike Peters is the CEO of Wisconsin Public Power (WPPI), which has in recent years adopted a variety of customer services from its members, making the job of the utilities simpler and more efficient. WPPI has 51 members, serving more than 200,000 homes and businesses in Wisconsin, Michigan and Iowa.

Peters, who has been the CEO since 2011, spoke about each one of the services individually. Some of the services are offered along with being a members, while others are cost-shared services among the members who participate. Peters said the total cost included in rates is about \$8 million or 2 percent of the wholesale bill.

Among the services included with membership at no additional cost were rate case support, access to WPPI's

In Brief

- Presentation from CEO of Wisconsin Public Power
- Agency offers customer billing, data management, outage management and more for members
- Cost is part of membership or shared among members

energy service managers, community relations funds, utility marketing and distribution consulting.

One of the pay-for-service options was WPPI's customer service information, called Northstar. It allows for complex billing of a variety of municipal services, including electric, water, sewer, storm water, refuse, internet, cable and telephone. It was designed in a way to ensure billing

accuracy amidst an industry of innovative rate structures and new technologies being implemented.

WPPI also implemented a meter data management system about a decade ago. Peters said this tool has allowed them to learn more about customer usage habits, which can help guide decisions about rates and other programs.

Outage Management Lite is a system that helps visualize outage alerts, giving field staff information ahead of customer calls. It also enables utilities to communicate with customers during an outage.

My Account is an online customer tool that integrates bill pay, fosters interaction with customers, facilitates push notifications and can be used for demand response.

Peters said that, as members began actively installing automated metering

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At left, OMPA General Manager Dave Osburn speaks to the membership at the Annual Meeting. Below, the group in attendance listens to APPA CEO Joy Ditto.



Annual Meeting: Continued from Page 7

in 2012, WPPI quickly saw an increased need for metering assistance. They now have five metering technicians and a metering engineer. They also have six dedicated staff that assist members with all aspects of developing rates and rate planning, as well as 17 energy professionals who assist the members.

In all, Peters said WPPI has 53 personnel assisting with services.

Michael Romeo

Romeo gave a breakout presentation to the membership on the impacts on the grid from electrification.

Representing Franklin Energy,

which provides energy programs to utilities across the U.S., he said they are seeing a big shift from energy efficiency programs to electrification.

“That’s just requiring more generation, all while trying to decommission out of date and carbon generation sources,” he said. “You’re going to have to do more with more inconsistent energy sources.”

Romeo gave the example of one large utility on the west coast and it being unprepared for electric vehicle infrastructure. Even with the rise of EVs in the area, the utility said that only 45 percent of the transformers across their network had enough available capacity

to install one 100kw ultrafast charger.

“Now, we need to upgrade that transformer. Who pays for that? It ultimately ends up in a time delay, and what the customer was hoping was going to take 2-3 months, now takes 9 months to a year,” he said.

Romeo also said that there are significant changes happening in the transportation industry with regards to electrification.

He said that a single mid-size commercial customer with an average demand of 150 kw which converts a transportation fleet to EVs could potentially increase their demand to over 400 kw.

OMPA Annual Report Available

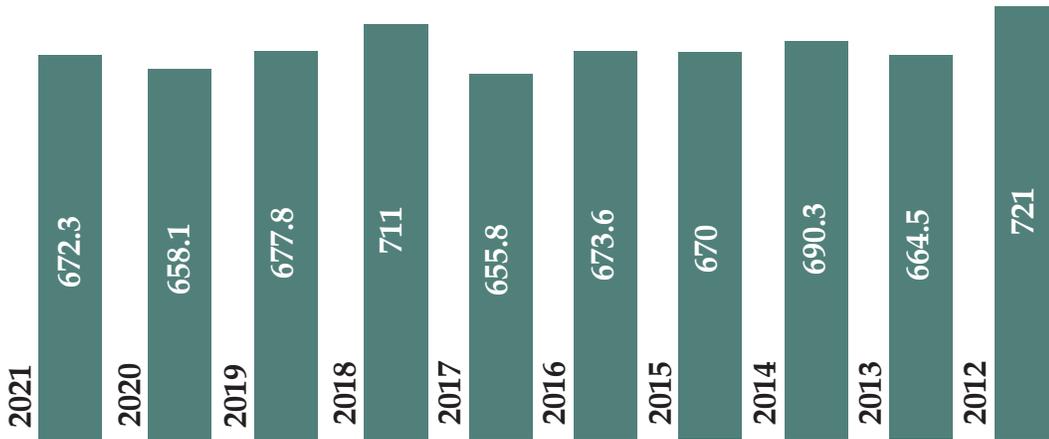
The 2021 OMPA Annual Report will be sent out to members and will be available on the OMPA website at ompa.com, following the May meeting of the Board of Directors. Any members seeking additional copies should contact Ryan Piersol at rpiersol@ompa.com. Below are graphs from the report, showing the Authority’s resource mix, system-wide peak and energy delivered for 2021 and previous years.

Resource Mix

Natural gas was once again the resource that made up the largest part of the Authority's portfolio, though its percentage decreased with the large increase from renewable energy.



Energy is listed in megawatts

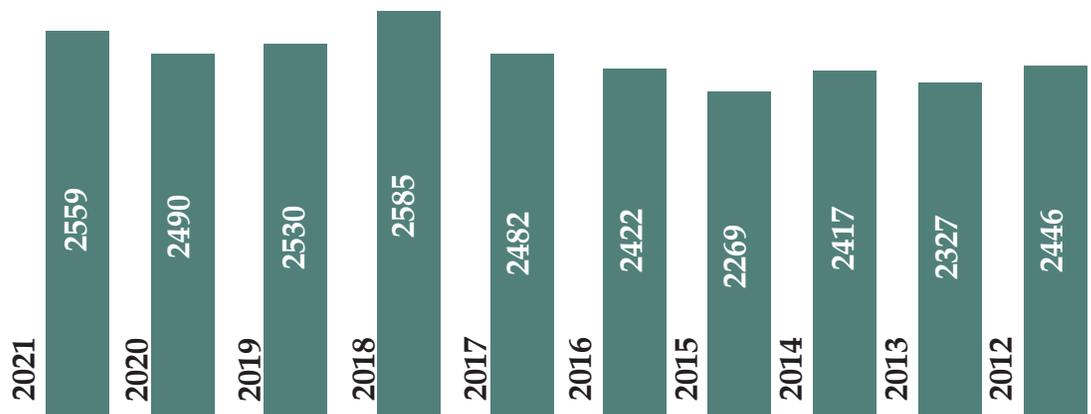


System-Wide Peak

OMPA’s coincident peak for utilities served in Oklahoma only was 672.3 megawatts in 2021. The high peak for the previous 10 years was 721 megawatts in 2011.

Energy Delivered

OMPA’s total power delivered in 2021 was 2,559 gigawatt hours, which was the second-highest total of the last 10 years, and just 25 gigawatts below the 10-year high of 2,585 in 2018.



Energy is listed in gigawatt hours

City Update

City a partner for shooting facility

As shooting sports popularity continues to grow in the Jackson County area, Altus leaders are working to build a facility for the community to enjoy the sports.

Students from Jackson County have won seven National FFA Championships in shooting since 2014.

There's big passion for shooting sports in the community, but nowhere for students to practice and compete.

Junior on Western's Shooting Team Ally Angelly said she's been on many road trips to pursue what she loves doing.

"We'll have to travel to McLoud,



Duncan, so all of our kids, like we can't even practice here in our home county," Angelly said.

WOSC President Chad Wiginton said that's about to change thanks to Western and the City of Altus partnering for a new facility that will keep students closer to home.

"Their options are to leave Jackson County and find a college or university somewhere we they can continue their passion for shooting and so we decided at Western Oklahoma State College, let's incorporate that into what we do and give those students the chance to stay close and continue to do what they

love," Wiginton said.

The City of Altus traded a piece of land owned by the city with owners of a site located in between Martha and Altus.

Not only will students be able to use it, but the Air Force Base and community members will, too, creating an economic boost, according to City Manager Gary Jones.

"Right now, they're going to other parts around the state, but we feel like hey, we've got the best team members, the best students here that are involved in this sport, why not bring other people here and provide this facility for them and for the citizens of Jackson County and neighboring communities as well," Jones said.

According to Wiginton, the college is applying for a \$2 million grant from the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife to provide students with other equipment needed for shooting sports.

- KSWO

City Update

Chickasaw Nation provides gift

Marlow City Council met for a regularly scheduled council meeting during which the board received their audit report and accepted a donation from the Chickasaw Nation for the purchase of a police department vehicle.

The city councilors opened the meeting with a presentation from Chris Angel with Angel, Johnston and Blasingame, P.C. for the audit report ending June 30, 2021.

Angel said the audit showed the year went well and the city has good



financial statements, bookkeeping and accountability.

Angel said the main purpose is to help everyone understand what the audit is.

Angel said after looking at transactions, "this does reflect the financial condition of the city and what happened for that year."

After running through the audit report, Angel said the city had a positive year in the financial statements.

Then, the board moved on to discuss a donation from the Chickasaw Nation, which would allow them to purchase and equip a police vehicle for the Marlow Police Department.

McPherson said they received a check to cover the purchase and equipment for the vehicle.

"This is really going to help update," McPherson said.

City Councilors accepted the donation.

Then, the board approved the purchase of a 2022 Dodge Durango Pursuit AWD as a police vehicle from Bob Howard Chrysler Jeep Dodge for \$34,173.

Next, the board approved the purchase and installation of the equipment for the police vehicle from FX Technologies for \$12,955.

- Duncan Banner

City Update

City recognizes responders after fire

The Blackwell City Council met to honor local first responders and to send off Blackwell Public Library's Lisa Vargas with an emotional retirement celebration.

The meeting began with Mayor T.J. Greenfield recognizing the services



of all organizations that assisted the City of Blackwell with extinguishing fires in Blackwell on April 6.

"The City of Blackwell would like to take a moment to thank the following emergency services who battled raging fires in the fierce wind

through most of the late afternoon and into the night," Greenfield said.

"We would like to thank Blackwell Fire and EMS, Blackwell Police Department, Blackwell Dispatch, Blackwell Animal Control, and Blackwell Public Power, as well as Tonkawa Fire, Kildare Fire, Braman Fire, Newkirk Fire, Deer Creek Fire and Ranch Drive Fire for assisting our crews battling yesterday's flames. "We also owe a debt of gratitude to the Oklahoma Highway Patrol, Kay County Sheriff's Department and Air Evac medical team as well as Dewitt Acres."

- *Blackwell Journal Tribune*

Edmond: Continued from Page 5

started work in March. Rigby replaced former city manager Larry Stevens, who served in the position since March 2002.

Rigby graduated from Brigham Young University in 1995 with a bachelor's degree in political science. After graduating, he moved to Queen Creek, Arizona, and worked in the town manager's office. He then moved to Mesa, Arizona, where he filled a number of roles during his 15 years there. Most notably, Rigby worked as a senior project manager for three years in Mesa, as well as the acting assistant city manager for one year. In 2003, Rigby earned a master's degree in public administration from Arizona State University.

Rigby then moved to Wichita, Kansas, working as the assistant city manager and director of development for six years prior to accepting the city manager job in Edmond.

In the following Q&A, Rigby talks about his path to Edmond and upcoming city projects. The conversation has been lightly edited for length, grammar and clarity.

What spurred your interest in

public administration?

Seeing mayors, councilmembers and city managers work at the state legislature and in their city halls to tackle daily issues that impact their citizens and businesses was so interesting and exciting. I had not seen that level of government in action and quickly understood that local government is the level of government that truly impacts everyone.

As Mesa and Wichita hold between four and five times the population of Edmond, how does your job differ in a smaller city?

The opportunity in a smaller city like Edmond is that it provides a greater opportunity for staff, residents and businesses to develop closer relationships that can enable a city such as Edmond to move forward, often at a greater clip, to overcome roadblocks, find win-win solutions and stay in front of issues. In my role, changing from an assistant city manager to a city manager is significant, as ultimately the council and staff look to my role to make key recommendations, decisions, and set a strategic path for the organization to accomplish the council's and the

community's vision and goals.

With the city council and staff's current focus on growth and expansion, what excites you the most to serve as the city manager of Edmond?

Working for a community that wants to be the best in quality of life, public safety, economic vitality and educational opportunities. Many people have moved or are moving into the community because they have chosen to be in a top-tiered community, and their expectations are that Edmond will continue to be a destination for them, their families, businesses and friends. This community push and expectation helps fuel and support city staff to elevate their efforts to be the best. It is exciting to come into work in such a community.

Are there any upcoming city projects that you're excited about?

Arcadia Lake Master Plan, Edmond 2050 Plan implementation, the various downtown projects, the expansion of the city's water treatment plant and the Kicking Bird facility improvements are just a few that are exciting.

- *NonDoc*

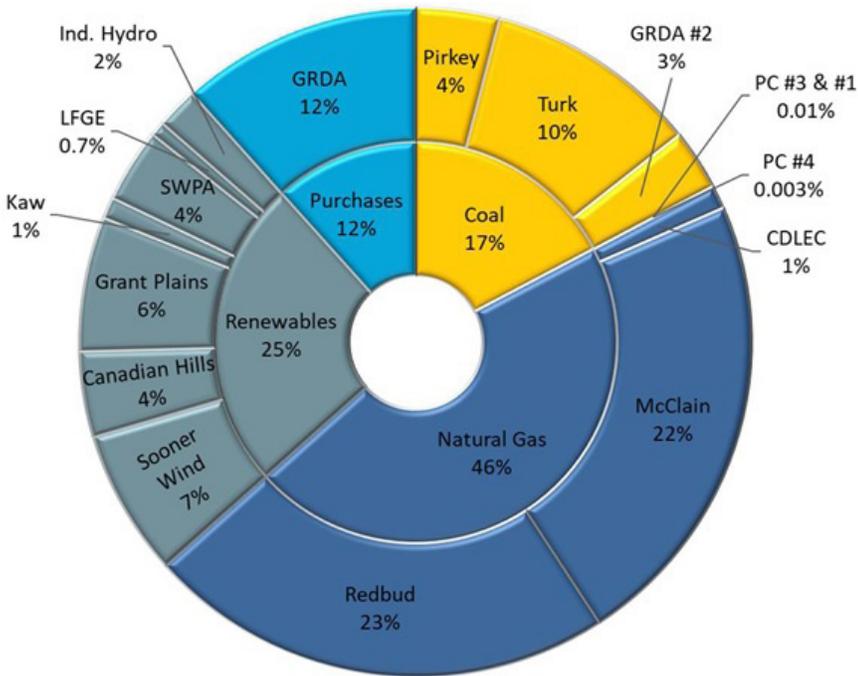


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Generation Mix Through March 2022



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