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Omaha NE 68102-2247

*W. Gary Gates*  
President & CEO

March 25, 2010

Reverend John P. Schlegel, S. J.  
President, Creighton University  
2500 California Plaza  
Omaha, NE 68178

Dear Father Schlegel:

OPPD is pleased to support Creighton University's request for federal funds to develop a solar energy project on its campus. OPPD has a long history of being good environmental stewards, and we have recently reinforced that commitment by creating a new organization that will focus on energy and environmental issues. Since the state of Nebraska has as much solar energy available as the state of Florida, one of OPPD's efforts will be to encourage the development of solar energy resources by its customers.

OPPD is partnering with Creighton University on the installation of solar and wind units on the campus which will be the basis for this project. The need for well trained and educated experts in solar and wind energy will grow significantly in the future and unless Nebraska has the ability to develop their own workforce, future growth will be hampered. Creighton has foresight to begin this program now and has the expertise ready to serve this growing industry in Nebraska. OPPD is pleased to be a partner with Creighton on the next phase of this project and anticipates having a strong demand for the graduates of this program to help OPPD with its efforts to incorporate more renewable energy into its generation mix.

This exciting project will also help establish Creighton as a leader in this region in the development of alternate energy sources. This effort could very well encourage other institutions, and Creighton University students, to become increasingly conscientious regarding energy and environmental issues. It will also afford OPPD and Creighton the opportunity to provide practical education about the value of solar and wind generated energy as a viable renewable resource for Nebraskans.

Sincerely,

W. Gary Gates  
President & CEO