



CONNECTED

Conway Corp Newsletter

Spring 2022 | Vol. 34 | No. 2

Powering Conway since 1929.

Operations Center Plans

Conway Corp announces plans for new operations center in 2024. | **P. 2**

Conway Solar at Happy

Construction begins on Conway Corp's 700-acre solar project. | **P. 3**

Conway Corp Retirees

With more than 100 years of combined service, four employees retire. | **P. 4**



In April 2022, a crew of five Conway Corp electric lineworkers traveled to Arizona to provide power for families in the Navajo Nation through the American Public Power Association's Light Up Navajo project. Read more about their experience on page 2.



(501) 450-6000

ConwayCorp.com



CONWAY CORP ANNOUNCES OPERATIONS CENTER PLANS

The Conway Corp Board of Directors recently approved plans for a new operations center to be constructed on approximately 60 acres of land on South German Lane north of Stone Dam Creek.

The new location will include a 31,000 square-foot office building, a 100,000 square-foot warehouse, a 22,500 square-foot fleet maintenance shop and covered parking for equipment and vehicles.

“In 2017 we did a master plan of our existing operations center on Harkrider Street and realized we would completely outgrow that location in 15 years,” Conway Corp CEO Bret Carroll said. “To support the current growth of Conway, we need more room and storage space. With that in mind, we made the decision to begin working on a plan for a new campus with facilities and space that would meet both our current and future needs.”

Nabholz Construction will break ground on the campus, designed by H+N Architects, in early 2023. The location is expected to be fully operational by the end of 2024.



LINEWORKERS GIVE POWER TO NAVAJO NATION

With an estimated population of approximately 300,000, the Navajo Nation is the largest Native American territory in the United States – and of the 55,000 homes on the reservation, approximately 15,000 do not have electricity.

That’s why the American Public Power Association and the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority are partnering with public power utilities across the country for project Light Up Navajo.

Conway Corp lineworkers Jake Ballard, Jeremy Douglas, Lance Heer, Huey King and Gordon Valentine worked 14-hour days while on the reservation to help bring electricity to the Navajo Nation, one home at a time.

Our crew ended the week powering the home of Aliza Wood, who had been waiting more than 30 years for electricity.

“It felt amazing,” Wood said when she flipped the power switch for the first time. “I was like a little kid just filled with excitement. I can see this. I can do this.

I can cook this. It just opened up the world basically.”

Through the project, volunteer crews from more than a dozen public power utilities across the country have worked to build electric lines in the Navajo Nation this spring to connect more than 300 homes during the 11-week project.

“It’s very humbling to be a part of this and have this experience,” Underground Service Technician Gordon Valentine said. “I think we’re a little spoiled. I’m getting old and I see people older than me getting electricity for the first time. It’s very rewarding. It’s just humbling. That’s all I can say.”



Photo Credit: Alysa Landry for the American Public Power Association

CONWAY CORP BREAKS GROUND AT HAPPY SOLAR



132MW_{DC}
CAPACITY



\$125M
CAPITAL INVESTMENT



21,400
EQUIVALENT
HOMES POWERED
ANNUALLY

Construction has begun on a new Conway Corp Solar project located on 700 acres near Happy, Arkansas in White County.

Conway Corp entered into a purchase power agreement with Lightsource bp to develop the 132 MW_{DC} project. Lightsource bp will finance, build, own and operate the facility and will deliver the solar energy it generates to Conway Corp under the fixed-rate power purchase agreement.

Conway Solar at Happy will supply clean energy to Conway Corp customers and will generate enough electricity to power more than 21,400 homes annually. The project will also play a role in reducing the city's carbon footprint by the equivalent of CO₂ emissions from 35,270 fuel-burning cars.

"We are committed to providing safe, reliable, affordable, innovative and environmentally-sound service to our customers. This solar project checks all of those boxes," Conway Corp Chief Executive Officer Bret Carroll said. "We know this project is a great long-range strategy in our continued efforts to serve our customers with excellence."

Crews broke ground on the site earlier this year, and the project is expected to be fully operational by December 2022.

BOARD ELECTS GARCIA

The Conway Corp Board of Directors recently elected Osmar Garcia to serve a seven-year term beginning May 8, 2022. Garcia is Chief Executive Officer of Garcia Wealth Management – Northwestern Mutual.

He has been active in the community for several years currently serving on the Conway Symphony Orchestra Board, the Conway Health Facilities Board and as Vice President of Opportunity Matters Arkansas. Garcia has also provided leadership for more than a decade for the Knights of Columbus – Council 5209.

"It's no secret that Conway Corp delivers a valuable service to the citizens of Conway," Garcia said. "It invites prospective businesses to settle their roots here and grow. Conway Corp is and will continue to be a cornerstone of our community and a main reason why our family chooses to live and work in this great city."

Garcia is a graduate of the University of Central Arkansas, where he graduated with a Bachelor in Business Administration – Finance and from Kaplan University's College for Financial Planning. He and his wife, Morgan, live in Conway.

The board elects one director annually to serve a seven-year term. Other board members are Tom Courtway, Kelley Erstine, Lindsay Henderson, Jake Nabholz, Denise Perry and Reggie Rose. Garcia replaces Brad Teague, whose term ended May 8, 2022.



CONWAY CORP EMPLOYEES EARN LINEMEN CERTIFICATIONS



Trey Brown



Bryce Hoggard



Paul Langley

Conway Corp Electric Department employees Trey Brown, Bryce Hoggard and Paul Langley were promoted to Journeyman Lineman after successfully completing a four-year apprentice program through the Missouri Public Utility Alliance.

The program requires classroom, correspondence and hands-on training with monthly and annual exams on electric curriculum.

Having completed the program, they logged more than 7,200 hours of on-the-job training and are now certified United States Department of Labor Power Journeymen Linemen.

Their commitment to the intensive program helps give Conway Corp the ability to provide a high-level of dependable electric service.

"Conway Corp has been recognized by the American Public Power Association with the Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3) designation because of dedicated and highly-trained employees like Trey, Bryce and Paul," CEO Bret Carroll said.

"The RP3 designation recognizes Conway Corp as one of the best electric providers in the nation for consistently providing Conway residents with the highest degree of reliable and safe electric service."

CONWAY CORP HONORS RETIREES

Dan Allen, 23 years

Senior Customer Accounts Manager Dan Allen retired March 2022 after spending more than 23 years serving the Conway community.

Dan began his career at Conway Corp in September 1999 as a customer accounts manager and was promoted to his most recent position in 2016.

Dan was known for continually going above and beyond to help customers and address their needs and concerns as quickly as possible. He helped customers with account and billing inquiries and adjustments as well as other issues related to utility and telecommunication services.



David Avra, 14 years

Major Accounts/Energy Efficiency Manager David Avra retired March 2022 after dedicating more than 14 years of service to Conway Corp.

David was hired in 2008 as an energy efficiency consultant and was promoted to manager in 2014.

David spent his career helping provide customers with the knowledge and tools they need to improve energy efficiency in their homes and businesses. He was instrumental in launching Conway Corp's New Home Program which recognizes builders and homes that implement efficiency construction.



Robert Fortner, 38 years

Water Systems Designer 2 Robert Fortner retired February 2022 dedicating more than 38 years to Conway Corp and the Conway community.

Robert was hired in 1984 as a water systems foreman and was promoted to superintendent of the water distribution system in 2010 before transferring to the engineering department in 2020.

Robert spent his career helping provide fresh, clean water to the citizens and businesses of Conway.



Keith LaPlante, 35 years

Dispatcher/System Operator Keith LaPlante retired March 2022 after dedicating more than 35 years of service to Conway Corp.

Keith started at Conway Corp in 1987 as a watchman/dispatcher in the operations division. In 2003 his title was changed to dispatcher then to dispatcher/system operator in 2020.

Keith spent his career helping customers after hours with everything from internet speed issues to power outages and coordinated with field crews to complete needed repairs during emergency and non-emergency situations.



PUBLIC POWER: KEEPING POLICYMAKERS INFORMED

The public power mission is excellent. It's hard to argue with providing reliable, affordable, safe and environmentally-sustainable power. Add to this the local decision-making and provision of electricity on a not-for-profit basis, and we can all be proud to be a public power community.

We don't have customers. We have friends and family and neighbors. We're invested in Conway because we are Conway.

Part of our job is keeping your lights on, and part of our job is advocating on your behalf for policy issues that affect our community and influence our local operations.

We keep in constant contact with local, state and federal policymakers to ensure they're educated and informed. We want them to know their decisions impact our community.

Membership in advocacy organizations is key to our efforts, and we're proud members of the American Public Power Association (APPA) and the Arkansas Municipal Power Association (AMPA).

AMPA is comprised of fifteen public power utilities across the state. Together, we have identified five main legislative issues important to our communities:



1. Climate policy should provide a reasonable amount of time to plan, build and amortize power plants and transmission facilities. We support environmental policy that sets clear, realistic expectations while keeping electricity affordable and reliable.

2. The replacement of fossil fuels with renewable electric generation will require substantial transmission investment that should be made by all stakeholders. We support policies that encourage fair and efficient transmission development as well as joint ownership of transmission and eliminating financial barriers to ownership.

3. Local issues like security, customer-owned generation and pole attachments are best regulated by local officials who are accountable to customers. We oppose efforts to preempt local authority over the retail and distribution-level activities of their utilities.

4. Access to federal tax incentives could save AMPA cities millions of dollars in energy investment. We support legislation that would allow AMPA cities access to federal tax incentives like direct payment of refundable tax credits.

5. In the next ten years, Arkansas will shutter 3200 MW of coal-powered generation. We support policies that promote fuel diversity, including natural gas, in electric generation.

We've been providing reliable, affordable and safe power to the Conway community for nearly 100 years. After all this time, we're still motivated by who we are and what we do for our community. We're committed to Conway – today and in the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bret Carroll".

Bret Carroll
Conway Corp
Chief Executive Officer



AROUND THE CLOCK PROTECTION

CONWAY CORP SECURITY



ConwayCorp

P.O. Box 99, Conway, Arkansas 72033

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Conway, Arkansas
Permit No. 16



CONWAYCORPTV

HOME ENTERTAINMENT THAT DOESN'T HAVE TO STAY AT HOME.

STREAMING TV | CLOUD DVR | LIVE SPORTS | LOCAL CHANNELS | MUCH MORE