

WE WILL 9/11/01 NEVER FORGET

A MOMENT TO REMEMBER



KENNETH FERRIERA, JOURNAL STAR

Service members and first responders lead Nebraska out of the tunnel before the Huskers' football game against Bowling Green at Memorial Stadium on Saturday. Nebraska recreated the tunnel walk that honored first responders before the 2001 Rice game shortly after the 9/11 attacks.

Nebraska recreates emotional 9/11 tunnel walk before Bowling Green win

ALYSSA JOHNSON
Lincoln Journal Star

As the United States descended into national mourning and widespread fear after the 9/11 attacks, Nebraska longed for a sense of normalcy.

Nine days after the attacks, Husker fans filled Memorial Stadium for a Thursday football game against Rice.

As the tunnel walk began, it wasn't football players who ran onto the field, but first responders and Lincoln firefighter Mark Eberspacher, who raised an American flag.

On Saturday, the Nebraska Athletic Department recreated the emotional tunnel walk as first responders led the Huskers onto the field before they kicked off against Bowling Green.

Senior associate athletic director for communications Keith Mann remembers the 2001 tunnel walk fondly.

"I believe most fans would agree that it was one of the most iconic and memorable moments in the 103-year history of



OMAHA WORLD-HERALD FILE PHOTO

Lincoln firefighter Mark Eberspacher raises an American flag during the Tunnel Walk prior to the start of Nebraska's game against Rice on Sept. 20, 2001.

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US power use to beat record highs in 2026

AI-hungry data centers drive energy demand

SCOTT DISAVINO
Reuters

NEW YORK — U.S. power consumption will rise to record highs in 2026 and 2027, driven by AI-hungry data centers and electrification, the U.S. Energy Information Administration said in its Short-Term Energy Outlook (STEO) on Wednesday.

The EIA projected power demand will rise from a record 4,195 billion kilowatt-hours (kWh) in 2025 to 4,270 billion kWh in 2026 and 4,349 billion kWh in 2027.

Demand is surging in large part due to data centers dedicated to artificial intelligence and cryptocurrency, and as homes and businesses use more electricity and less fossil fuels for heat and transportation.

"Despite a pause in connecting new data center projects in Texas to the grid, the West South Central region accounts for the largest share of total electricity sales growth in our forecast," EIA said in the report.

The EIA forecasts that power sales in 2026 will rise to 1,527 billion kWh for

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SHELBY TAUBER, REUTERS

The steel frame of data centers are under construction during a tour of the OpenAI data center in Abilene, Texas, Sept. 23, 2025.