

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF)
OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY FOR)
APPROVAL OF ITS 2015 TRANSMISSION)
COST RECOVERY ELIGIBILITY AND RATE)
ADJUSTMENT)**

**ORDER ASSESSING
FILING FEE**

EL14-090

On October 31, 2014, Otter Tail Power Company (OTP) filed with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) a Petition for Annual Update to Transmission Cost Recovery Rider Rate. OTP requests approval of the annual update to its Transmission Cost Recovery Rider (TCR) rate. According to the filing, the TCR rate has been adjusted to reflect the TCR revenue requirements for the next recovery period (calendar year 2015). The update includes the tracker balance estimated for the end of the current recovery period so that no over or under-recovery of TCR costs occurs. The update also includes the costs of two new transmission projects that are not currently in base rates and have not previously been approved for inclusion in the TCR. The impact of the change in rates for a residential customer using 750 kWh per month is an increase of 49 cents per month. For a large general service customer using 486 kW and 222,350 kWh, the bill impact of this update is an increase of \$72.30 per month. OTP proposes an effective date of March 1, 2015.

On November 6, 2014, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of November 21, 2014, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-1A, and 49-34A, particularly 49-1A-8 and 49-34A-25.1 through 49-34A-25.4.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on November 12, 2014, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission's staff requested that the Commission assess a filing fee of up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) as authorized by SDCL 49-1A-8 to defray expenses commencing from the filing date incident to analyzing and ruling upon this type of filing. The Commission voted unanimously to assess a filing fee for actual expenses incurred commencing from the filing date in the review of this filing up to the statutory limit of \$50,000. It is therefore

ORDERED, that OTP shall be assessed a filing fee for actual expenses incurred commencing from the filing date not to exceed \$50,000 pursuant to SDCL 49-1A-8.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 19th day of November, 2014.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically.
By: <u>Joy Lashley</u>
Date: <u>11-19-14</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner