

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO. AND)
OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY FOR A PERMIT)
TO CONSTRUCT THE BIG STONE SOUTH TO)
ELLENDALE 345 KV TRANSMISSION LINE)**

**ORDER GRANTING
INTERVENTION AND PARTY
STATUS**

EL13-028

On August 23, 2013, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a division of MDU Resources, and Otter Tail Power Company (jointly, Applicants) filed an application with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) for a permit to construct a 345 kV transmission line of approximately 150 to 160 miles in Brown, Day, and Grant counties to the Big Stone South Substation in Grant County, South Dakota, near Big Stone City (Project). On October 18, 2013, an Application for Party Status was filed by Gerald Pesall. On November 6, 2013, the Commission issued an Order Granting Intervention and Party Status to Gerald Pesall. On January 27, 2014, Applicants filed a First Amendment to Application. Due to Applicants having made some route changes in certain areas of the Project which will result in some additional landowners coming within the half-mile Project corridor, Applicants have served notice on such landowners, and the Commission has scheduled an additional public input hearing on May 20, 2014, at Aberdeen, S.D. An intervention deadline of April 16, 2014, was set.

On April 14, 2014, James R. McKane III, Clark T. Olson, Schuring Farms, Inc., Bradley R. Morehouse, and Kevin Anderson filed Applications for Party Status. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-41B, particularly 49-41B-17, and ARSD Chapter 20:10:22, specifically 20:10:22:40.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on April 30, 2014, the Commission considered James R. McKane III, Clark T. Olson, Schuring Farms, Inc., Bradley R. Morehouse, and Kevin Anderson's Applications for Party Status. Applicants did not object. The Commission voted unanimously to grant intervention and party status to James R. McKane III, Clark T. Olson, Schuring Farms, Inc., Bradley R. Morehouse, and Kevin Anderson. It is therefore

ORDERED, that James R. McKane III, Clark T. Olson, Schuring Farms, Inc., Bradley R. Morehouse, and Kevin Anderson's Applications for Party Status and intervention are granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 1st day of May, 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>5-1-14</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner