

**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 2016 )  
 TRANSMISSION COST RECOVERY )  
 ELIGIBILITY AND RATE ADJUSTMENT )

**ORDER ASSESSING  
 FILING FEE  
 EL15-045**

On October 30, 2015, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a petition from Otter Tail Power Company (OTP) for approval of its 2016 Transmission Cost Recovery (TCR) Rider. OTP's TCR rate has been adjusted to reflect the TCR revenue requirements for the next recovery period (calendar year 2016). 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 new costs from the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) and new revenues from the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) that are not currently in base rates and have not previously been approved for inclusion in the Rider. The impact of the change in rates for a residential customer using 1,000 kWh per month is an increase of \$1.77 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 \$232.62 per month. OTP proposes an effective date of March 1, 2016.

On November 5, 2015, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of November 20, 2015, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. The Commission has jurisdiction in 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, 2015, 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 16<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2015.

<p><b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b></p> <p>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 or by mail.</p> <p>By: <u>Polayne West</u></p> <p>Date: <u>11-16-15</u></p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson  
 CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen  
 KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson  
 GARY HANSON, Commissioner