BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

In the Matter of the Transmission Permit for the Big Stone South to Ellendale Project EL13-028

HENRY FORD REBUTTAL TESTIMONY

1

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2	Q. Please state your name, employer, and work address.
3	A. My name is Henry Ford. I am the Director of Electric Transmission Development for
4	Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. ("MDU"). My business address is 400 N. St., Bismarck, ND
5	58501.
6	Q. Did you prepare and direct testimony regarding the Big Stone South to
7	Ellendale Project ("the Project")?
8	A. Yes, I did.
9	Q. What is the purpose of your rebuttal testimony?
10	A. To address the testimony of Gregory Tylka, Ph.D, who prepared direct testimony on
11	behalf of Gerald Pesall, and which was filed with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
12	("the Commission"). Specifically, I am going to address Dr. Tylka's testimony about the alleged
13	effect of the construction of the Project on the possible spread of soybean cyst nematode
14	("SCN").
15	Q. Other than Gerald Pesall, has anyone else expressed concern regarding the
16	effect of the construction of the Project on transmission of SCN?
17	A. No. Landowners, local governments, or governmental agencies who have
18	communicated with the Project have never discussed SCN or the effect of the Project on the
19	spread of SCN.
20	Q. Has MDU ever encountered allegations that construction or maintenance of
21	transmission projects will increase the spread of SCN in any of MDU's other transmission
22	projects?

1	A. No, this case is the first time where alleged spread of SCN has been raised as a
2	concern.
3	Q. How many miles of transmission line does MDU have?
4	A. MDU owns and maintains approximately 3,000 miles of transmission line.
5	Q. What experience has co-owner Otter Tail Power Company (OTP) had regarding
6	SCN in the construction and maintenance of transmission lines?
7	A. Like MDU, OTP has not encountered the complaint that construction or maintenance
8	of a transmission line spreads SCN.
9	Q. When was the first time the Project learned anyone had concerns that the
10	construction or maintenance of the transmission line would spread SCN?
11	A. Upon receiving the direct filed testimony of Dr. Tylka, which was filed by Gerald
12	Pesall on April 24, 2014.
13	Q. What steps are Project taking in light of Dr. Tylka's testimony?
14	A. The Project intends to research the effect construction or maintenance of the
15	transmission line might likely have on the spread of SCN.
16	Q. How do you propose updating the Commission regarding the Project's plan for
17	addressing SCN?
18	A. Because SCN is a new issue for the Project, and because the short time frame for
19	rebuttal testimony after Gerald Pesall filed Dr. Tylka's testimony, the Project needs additional
20	time to complete their study and research. Following the completion of our study and research,
21	the Project will supplement their prefiled rebuttal testimony.
22	Q. Does this complete your prefiled rebuttal testimony at this time?
23	A. Yes.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Jason R. Sutton, do hereby certify that I am a member of the law firm of Boyce, Greenfield, Pashby & Welk, LLP, attorneys for Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. and Otter Tail Power Company and that on the 9th day of May 2014, a true and correct copy of **Henry Ford Rebuttal Testimony** was served via email to the following addresses listed:

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