



# Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy

The legal and scientific voice protecting and defending Minnesota's Environment

*Applicants*  
EXHIBIT NO. 62  
C. BACHAND

26 East Exchange Street - Suite 206  
Saint Paul, MN 55101-1667  
651.223.5969  
651.223.5967 fax  
mcea@mncenter.org  
www.mncenter.org

September 19, 2005

RECEIVED

SEP 22 2005

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

FAX Received SEP 19 2005

**Founding Director**  
Sigurd F. Olson  
(1899-1982)

**VIA FACSIMILE AND U.S. MAIL**

**Board of Directors**  
Janice L. Goldman-Carter  
*Chair*  
Jim Perry  
*Vice Chair*  
Angus M. Vaughan  
*Treasurer*

Pamela Bonrud  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
Capitol Building, 1st floor  
500 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

Mary H. Binger  
Gene Christenson  
Charles K. Dayton  
Robert G. Dunn  
Janet C. Green  
Cecily Hines  
Vanya S. Hogen  
Roger Holmes  
Douglas A. Kelley  
Michael Kleber-Diggs  
Dee Long  
Sarah Nettleton  
Jim Perry  
Deborah L. Swackhamer  
Steven G. Thorne

**RE: In the Matter of In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company on behalf of Big Stone II Co-owners for an Energy Conversion Facility Permit for the Construction Of the Big Stone II Project**

**Docket No. EL05-022**

Dear Ms. Bonrud:

In connection with the above-referenced docket, please find enclosed the original and ten copies of the Application for Party Status of Minnesotans for an Energy-Efficient Economy, the Izaak Walton League of America - Midwest Office, and Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 651-223-5969. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth I. Goodpaster

Enclosure

Martha C. Brand  
*Executive Director*

6303

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

<b>In the Matter of Otter Tail Power</b>	)	<b>APPLICATION FOR</b>
<b>Company on behalf of Big Stone II</b>	)	<b>PARTY STATUS</b>
<b>Co-owners for an Energy Conversion</b>	)	
<b>Facility Permit for the Construction</b>	)	
<b>Of the Big Stone II Project</b>	)	<b>EL05-022</b>

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-17 and ARSD 20:10:22:40, the following organizations each apply for party status in the above-referenced proceeding: Minnesotans for an Energy-Efficient Economy ("ME3"), Izaak Walton League of America – Midwest Office ("IWLA"), and Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy ("MCEA"). SDCL 49-41B-17 (3) provides that parties to energy conversion facility permitting proceedings include "any nonprofit organization, formed in whole or in part to promote conservation or natural beauty, to protect the environment, personal health or other biological values . . . to promote consumer interests . . . or to promote the orderly development of the areas in which the facility is to be sited[.]" ME3, IWLA and MCEA each meet the definition of a party under SDCL 49-41B-17 (3).

ME3 is a non-profit organization, working in the public interest to increase commitments to renewable energy, energy efficiency in homes, government and business, to protect public health and quality of life, and to promote an energy-efficient economy.

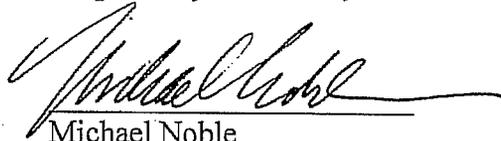
IWLA is a nonprofit conservation organization committed to protecting fish and wildlife, critical habitat, air and water resources. The Midwest Office of the IWLA works on energy and air quality issues throughout the Midwest.

MCEA is a nonprofit environmental organization that works in the courts, the legislature and state agencies to protect Minnesota's wildlife, natural resources and the health of its people. MCEA's five program areas include an Energy Program, which focuses on advancing Minnesota utilities' pursuit of environmentally sustainable sources of energy.

ME3, IWLA, and MCEA respectfully request that the Commission grant them each party status in this proceeding.

Dated: September 19, 2005

Respectfully submitted,



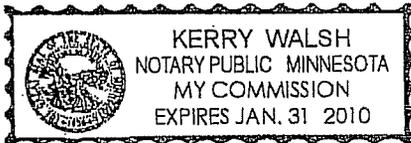
Michael Noble  
Executive Director  
Minnesotans for an Energy-Efficient Economy  
Minnesota Building, Suite 600  
46 East Fourth Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101 V 651-726-7563



William Grant  
Executive Director  
Izaak Walton League of America - Midwest Office  
1619 Dayton Avenue, Suite 202  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55104 V 651-649-1446  
ext. 11



Elizabeth Goodpaster  
Energy Program Director  
Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy  
26 East Exchange Street, Suite 206  
St. Paul, MN 55101



Subscribed and sworn before me this 19<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2005.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

6305