



December 8, 2005

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John Smith  
SD Public Utilities Commission  
500 E Capitol  
Pierre SD 57501

RECEIVED  
DEC 17 2005  
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Re: In the Matter of the Application by Otter Tail Power Company on Behalf of Big Stone II Co-Owners for an Energy Conversion Facility Permit for the Construction of Big Stone II Project (EL05-022)  
Our File No. 11402.000

Dear Mr. Smith:

Big Stone II ("the Applicant") has discussed its position proffered at the prehearing conference as to where the contested case hearing should be held in this matter. As you know, we requested that the hearing be held in Milbank because of the significance to the local affected area. However, as you expressed during the prehearing conference there will be many logistic issues in holding the hearing in Milbank. After careful consideration, the Applicant would agree that the contested case hearing scheduled to begin on June 5, 2006 could take place in Pierre. I am hopeful that this will make it easier for all of the participants, Staff and Commissioners.

Sincerely yours,

BOYCE, GREENFIELD, PASHBY & WELK, L.L.P.

Thomas J. Welk  
TJW/vjj

- cc: Mark Rolphes
- Terry Graumann
- John Davidson
- Elizabeth Goodpaster
- Deanna White
- Mary Jo Stueve
- Erin Jordahl-Redlin
- Karen Cremer
- Todd Guerrero
- David Sasseville