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March 14, 2006

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SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Patricia Van Gerpen
Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
Capitol Building, 1st Floor
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

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

Dear Executive Director Van Gerpen:

Enclosed for filing please find the Applicants' Pre-filed Direct Testimony, marked as Exhibits 1-11, and 13-28.

Also enclosed is a CD containing the testimony.

Paper copies of the testimony have been served on those persons on the Legal Service List and electronic copies (with the exception of, because of their large size, Exhibits 24-A and 25-A) on those persons on the Electronic Service List. The testimony will also be placed on the project's regulatory website at <https://extranet.lindquist.com/bigstone>.

Please direct any questions to the undersigned at the number above or to Mr. Thomas J. Welk. You may contact Mr. Thomas J. Welk at (605) 336-2424.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

LINDQUIST & VENNUM P.L.L.P.



Todd J. Guerrero

TJG/kas
Enclosures

cc: Legal Service List
Doc# 2122079\1

**DOCKET EL05-022
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