

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company's
Petition to Establish an Environmental Quality
Cost Recovery Tariff

Docket No. EL12-027

NorthWestern Energy's Petition to Intervene

NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy petitions the Public Utilities Commission for leave to intervene in this docket. In support of its Petition, NorthWestern Energy states as follows:

1. Otter Tail Power Company has petitioned the Commission for approval of an Environmental Quality Cost Recovery Tariff relating to approval of tariff mechanisms for automatic annual adjustment of charges for jurisdictional costs of new environmental measures. The purpose of Otter Tail's request is to begin recovery of its share of the costs of the required environmental retrofit to the Big Stone power plant.

2. NorthWestern Energy is a co-owner of the Big Stone power plant. NorthWestern Energy is an investor-owned, rate-regulated public utility serving customers in South Dakota. NorthWestern Energy therefore has an interest in this proceeding and requests intervention in order to participate fully in this matter.

3. The interests of NorthWestern Energy are unique and cannot be fully and adequately represented by the existing parties. NorthWestern Energy and its stakeholders and ratepayers may be directly affected by the issues raised in this proceeding and its outcome.

WHEREFORE, NorthWestern Energy respectfully requests that the Commission grant its Petition for leave to intervene in this docket.

Dated at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, this 10th day of April, 2012.

NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a
NorthWestern Energy

/s/ Timothy P. Olson

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that on the 10th day of April, 2012, she transmitted electronically a true and correct copy of NorthWestern Energy's Petition to Intervene to the following:

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