

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST)	EL14-083
BY OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY FOR)	
APPROVAL TO TRANSFER PERMIT FOR)	MOTION FOR ORDER
345 kV TRANSMISSION FACILITIES TO)	TRANSFERRING PERMIT
JOINT OWNERSHIP WITH NORTHERN)	OWNERSHIP TO JOINT
STATES POWER COMPANY dba XCEL)	OWNERSHIP FOR 345kV
ENERGY)	TRANSMISSION FACILITIES

Otter Tail Power Company hereby files and moves the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) for an Order pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-29, authorizing the transfer of a portion of the permit(s) granted in the above captioned docket from Otter Tail Power Company to Northern States Power Minnesota d/b/a Xcel Energy (“Xcel Energy”) and Otter Tail Power Company, as joint permittees.

In 2006, on behalf of itself and six other regional utilities, Otter Tail filed an application for a permit to construct and upgrade certain substations and transmission lines associated with the anticipated expansion of the Big Stone electric generation plant. The Commission approved the application and granted the permit in an Order dated January 16, 2007 (the “Permit”). The proposed generation project was cancelled prior to construction but certain of the transmission facilities permitted for construction and upgrading in the Permit have continued as active projects and are currently planned for completion as part of one of the 16 Multi-Value Projects (“MVPs”) approved by the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (“MISO”) in December, 2011. Those identified facilities are: a) two 230 kV transmission lines, each approximately 1.5 miles in length, b) the Big Stone South Substation, and c) approximately 28 miles of 345 kV double-circuit capable line. The MVPs will help expand and enhance the

region's transmission system, including increased system capacity, greater reliability, reduced congestion and increased access to affordable energy sources.

In 2013, the Commission ordered that ownership of the Permit be transferred from the seven regional utilities to solely Otter Tail Power Company in docket EL12-045. Later in 2013, the Commission accepted Otter Tail Power Company's certification that, as defined in its petition, the project meets the same conditions (with some changes) and ordered the same in docket EL12-063.

Otter Tail Power Company and Xcel Energy expect to jointly own and construct the approximately 28 miles of double-circuit capable 345 kV transmission line extending from Big Stone South Substation to approximately Gary, South Dakota, where the additional 40 or 50 miles meet the remaining permitted 345 kV transmission line facilities which the Commission approved in Docket EL13-020 . Otter Tail Power Company will solely own, construct and maintain the 230 kV facilities and the Big Stone South Substation and also upgrade the Big Stone Substation to accommodate the interconnection. Xcel Energy is anticipated to be the construction manager. Otter Tail Power Company wishes to transfer a portion of the ownership of the Permit relating solely to the 345 kV transmission line such that ownership is in both Otter Tail Power Company and Xcel Energy as joint permittees, similar to the approach taken in Docket EL13-020. Xcel Energy accepts this Permit under the same agreement and reaffirms that it meets or will meet all of the requirements for the Permit as issued. Together, Otter Tail Power Company and Xcel Energy request the Commission grant the portion of the Permit relating to the 345 kV transmission line to both of the companies in joint ownership described herein.

Dated this 17 day of September, 2014.

MAY, ADAM, GERDES & THOMPSON LLP

BY:



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

17 Brett Koenecke of May, Adam, Gerdes & Thompson LLP, hereby certifies that on the day of September, 2014, he electronically mailed, a true and correct copy of the foregoing in the above captioned matter to the following at their last known address, to wit:

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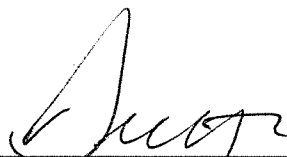
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