

**Deuel County
Resolution #17-20**

WHEREAS, the Deuel County Commission believes that a ready supply of low cost, reliable and clean energy is a necessity for rural South Dakota residents and;

WHEREAS, the Commissioners believe that Ottertail Power Company's proposed Astoria Gas Project is a responsible project for rural South Dakota residents and businesses, and that the construction and operation of the proposed natural gas plant will benefit the economy of Deuel County and eastern South Dakota;


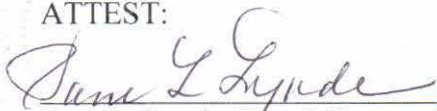
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Deuel County Commissioners support the efforts of Ottertail Power Company to build the proposed Astoria Natural Gas Plant and remains supportive of a project like Astoria as it will qualify per Resolution #97-12 and County Commission adoption of the SD Discretionary formula dated December 1, 2015.

Dated this 6th day of September, 2017.



Gary Jaeger, Chairman
Deuel County Commissioners

ATTEST:

Pam L. Lynde, Deuel County Auditor



Brookings County
Board of County Commissioners
520 3rd St., Suite 210
Brookings, SD 57006
605-696-8205
BrookingsCountyCommission@brookingscountysd.gov

September 26, 2017

Kevin Kouba
Otter Tail Power Company
Milbank Area Manager

Dear Mr. Kouba:

The Brookings County Commission would like to show its support for Otter Tail Power Company's proposed Astoria Station. Otter Tail Power Company provides electricity for the towns of Bushnell and Elkton in Brookings County. The County Commission has been informed about the project and as a unified body this Commission supports the project to help serve residents with needed energy services.

Please contact Commission Department Director, Stacy Steffensen, if you have any questions at 605-696-8205.

Sincerely,

Larry Jensen, Chairperson
Brookings County Commission

Lee Ann Pierce, Vice-Chairperson
Mike Bartley, Commissioner
Ryan Krogman, Commissioner
Stephne Miller, Commissioner

TOWN OF TORONTO

PO BOX 333
TORONTO SD 57268

(605) 794-2461 phone
(605) 794-1301 fax
toronto@itctel.com

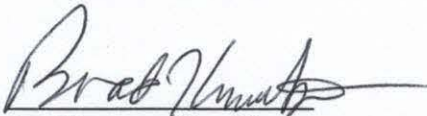
September 11, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

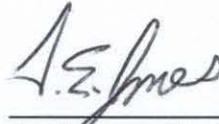
The Town of Toronto would like to express their support of the Astoria Station.

We appreciate the commitment to low cost, reliable, clean energy.

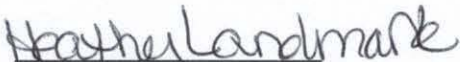
The Town of Toronto Trustees,



Brad Knutson, President



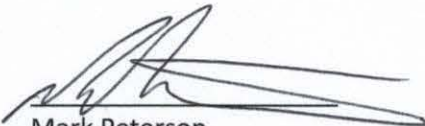
Frank James, Vice-President



Heather Landmark



Nancy Hartenhoff-Crooks



Mark Peterson

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RESOLUTION NO. 2017-8

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSED ASTORIA STATION POWER PLANT PROJECT

WHEREAS, the City of Clear Lake believes that the future growth and economic vitality for all communities in South Dakota depend on an adequate supply of affordable electric power; and

WHEREAS, Otter Tail Power Company has announced its intention to construct the Astoria Station near Astoria; and

WHEREAS, Otter Tail Power Company's proposed Astoria Station power plant will supply electricity to help meet South Dakota's growing demands for energy; and

WHEREAS, the construction of this proposed power plant will bring temporary workers whose local spending will strengthen communities such as Clear Lake; and

WHEREAS, the Astoria Station Project will bring new permanent operational jobs to the area and these permanent workers and their families will strengthen the economic viability of communities such as Clear Lake.

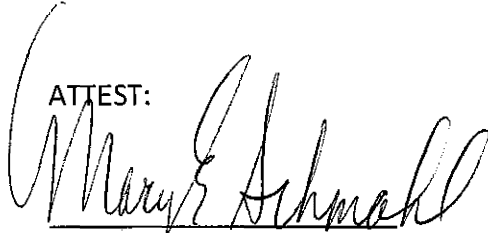
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Clear Lake, Deuel County, South Dakota, that the City of Clear Lake supports Otter Tail Power Company's proposed Astoria Station Project.

Dated this 11th day of September, 2017.

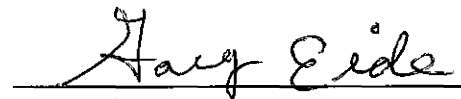
CITY OF CLEAR LAKE

(SEAL)

ATTEST:



Mary E. Schmahl
Finance Officer


Gary Eide, Mayor

DEUBROOK AREA SCHOOLS DISTRICT 5-6

Home of the Dolphins and Lady Dolphins

Toronto Elementary PS-6
PO Box 399, Toronto, SD 57268
(605) 794-1151 – Fax 794-2492

White – Grades 7-12
PO Box 346, White, SD 57276
(605) 629-1101 -- Fax 629-3701

Dr. Kimberly Kludt
Superintendent
(605) 629-1100

Paul Nepodal
7-12 Principal/Activities Director
(605) 629-1114

Kristi Andrews
Business Manager
(605) 629-1102

Mitchell Reed
K-6 Principal
(605) 794-1152

Letter of Support for Astoria Station

The Deubrook Area School District 5-6 believes Astoria Station will have a positive impact on the local and regional economy through tax benefits, infrastructure improvements, and jobs.

Astoria Station will pay property tax totaling approximately \$3 million within the first five years of operation, then approximately \$1 million each subsequent year.

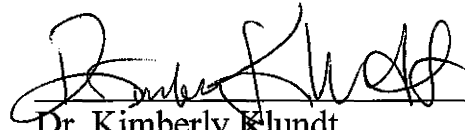
Infrastructure improvements needed for the station could lead to more generation projects in the area, which would benefit the region.

Astoria Station will help Otter Tail Power Company continue to reliably and affordably serve its customers in this region and throughout its service area by providing energy when customers need it—such as when customers are using more energy than usual or when renewable generation conditions aren't ideal.

The Deubrook Area School District 5-6 supports Otter Tail Power Company's proposed Astoria Station.



David Iverson
President
Deubrook Area School District 5-6



Dr. Kimberly Kludt
Superintendent
Deubrook Area School District 5-6

September 8, 2017

To Whom it May Concern:

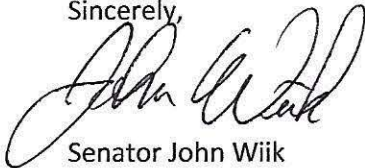
I wholeheartedly support Otter Tail Power Company's proposed Astoria Station in Deuel County, South Dakota.

The location couldn't be more perfectly placed, the relationships with the site's neighbors has been well established, and the people who live nearby have been supportive of this plant. It has been my privilege to attend the open house in Astoria, and so far, this proposal has been met with overwhelming support. Otter Tail Power Company has been a good neighbor growing up next to their coal fired power plant near my hometown of Big Stone City. They support their local community and offer stable, good paying jobs to their employees.

Even though this plant will not operate full time, their staff will be full time and will offer rural Deuel County a solid dependable tax base for years to come while keeping our electricity rates affordable and available when renewable generation isn't available. Astoria Station will make it possible to expand the growing desire for renewable energy by making sure a backup is available at a moment's notice.

In closing, I would like to commend Otter Tail Power Company for choosing South Dakota and especially Deuel County for their investment and thank everyone involved for expanding our electric grid through the CAPx2020 project, ensuring dependable, affordable electric power for our State and our Nation for years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Wiik", written in a cursive style.

Senator John Wiik

September 22, 2017

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

Ref: Otter Tail Power peaking plant - Astoria Station

Dear PUC commissioners,

Otter Tail Power Company will soon submit plans for construction of a natural gas "peaking" power plant in Duel County. The 250 MW plant they refer to as "Astoria Station" is intended to be under construction in 2020 and be on line in 2021.

This plant will provide jobs and other economic benefits during both construction and operation, and following construction will add a nice property tax boost, supporting the local school and county government.

Our regional utilities, including Otter Tail Power have done an excellent job of preparing for the future. All of us are thankful for the reliability of the electricity serving our homes and businesses. We often take for granted what they do to ensure the lights are on. There is always a need to get ready for tomorrow. I am thankful that Otter Tail Power is thinking ahead.

I offer my support for this project and encourage your positive review.

Sincerely,



Representative John Mills, District 4