

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY OTTER)
TAIL POWER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF)
AN ELECTRIC SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR)
THE SUPPLY OF BULK INTERRUPTIBLE)
POWER BETWEEN OTTER TAIL POWER)
COMPANY AND VALLEY QUEEN CHEESE)
FACTORY, INC.)

ORDER APPROVING
CONTRACT WITH
DEVIATIONS

EL01-026

On November 2, 2001, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing by Otter Tail Power Company (Otter Tail) for approval of a Contract with Deviations, pursuant to its bulk interruptible service tariff with Valley Queen Cheese Factory, Inc. (Valley Queen). The contract replaces an electric service agreement between the parties for large customer service dated March 4, 1981. Otter Tail filed the following tariff sheet for Commission approval:

Section No. 4, 2nd Revised Sheet No. 4, cancelling 1st Revised Sheet No. 4

On December 12, 2001, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the request for approval of the Contract with Deviations. Commission Staff recommended approval.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-10, and 49-34A-11. Further, the Commission finds that Otter Tail's request for approval of a Contract with Deviations is just and reasonable and shall be approved. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that the request seeking approval of a Contract with Deviations is in the public interest and is hereby granted. It is further

ORDERED, that the above-referenced tariff sheet is effective for service rendered on and after January 1, 2002.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 20th day of December, 2001.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE	
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.	
By:	<u><i>Delaine Kelbo</i></u>
Date:	<u>12/21/01</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner