BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING FOR AN EXTENSION 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 EXTENSION OF CONTRACT WITH DEVIATIONS

EL06-029

On December 15, 2006, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing by Otter Tail Power Company (Otter Tail) for approval of extension of Contract with Deviations with Valley Queen Cheese Factory, Inc. (Valley Queen Cheese), on less than 30 days notice. The current contract is a five-year agreement which ends on December 31, 2006. Both Otter Tail and Valley Queen Cheese request a one-month extension of the current contract, which would end on January 31, 2007, in order to come to an agreement on new rates for service.

On December 19, 2006, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the request for approval of extension of 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 extension of 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 extension of Contract with Deviations on less than 30 days notice is in the public interest and is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this ______ day of January, 2007.

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: Allaine Kalho
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Date: 1/13/07
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(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

DUSTIN M./JØHNSON, Chairman

GARY HANSON, Commissioner

STEVE KOLBECK, Commissioner