

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF)
OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY TO)
ESTABLISH AN ENVIRONMENTAL)
QUALITY COST RECOVERY TARIFF)**

**ORDER ASSESSING
FILING FEE**

EL14-082

On August 29, 2014, Otter Tail Power Company (Otter Tail) filed with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) a Petition of Otter Tail Power Company requesting Commission approval of an Environmental Quality Cost Recovery Tariff. The purpose of this request is to begin the recovery of Otter Tail's share of the costs of the required environmental retrofits to the Big Stone Plant located near Big Stone City, South Dakota and the Hoot Lake Plant, located near Fergus Falls, Minnesota. Otter Tail anticipates the rate impact of this request for both projects will be approximately 7.1 percent on average in the first year of the rider. Once the construction is complete in 2015, Otter Tail estimates the rate impact will be slightly less than 12 percent. Otter Tail proposes a November 1, 2014, effective date.

On September 4, 2014, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of September 19, 2014, to interested persons on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv.

SDCL 49-1A-8 authorizes the Commission to require a deposit of up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) in the Commission's Regulatory Assessment Fee Fund to defray Commission expenses incident to analyzing and ruling upon this type of filing. The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-1A and 49-34A.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on September 16, 2014, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission voted unanimously to assess a filing fee from Otter Tail as requested by Commission Staff up to the statutory limit of \$50,000.00 to account for actual expenses commencing from the filing date. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Otter Tail shall be assessed a filing fee pursuant to SDCL 49-1A-8 for actual expenses incurred by the Commission commencing from the filing date not to exceed \$50,000.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 19th day of September, 2014.

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, electronically.

By: *By Lashley*

Date: 9.18.14

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner