



# Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy

The legal and scientific voice protecting and defending Minnesota's Environment

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September 19, 2005

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South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
Capitol Building, 1st floor  
500 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

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**RE: In the Matter of In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company on behalf of Big Stone II Co-owners for an Energy Conversion Facility Permit for the Construction Of the Big Stone II Project**

**Docket No. EL05-022**


Martha C. Brand  
*Executive Director*

Dear Ms. Bonrud:

In connection with the above-referenced docket, please find enclosed the original and ten copies of the Application for Party Status of Minnesotans for an Energy-Efficient Economy, the Izaak Walton League of America - Midwest Office, and Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 651-223-5969. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth I. Goodpaster

Enclosure

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

<b>In the Matter of Otter Tail Power</b>	)	<b>APPLICATION FOR</b>
<b>Company on behalf of Big Stone II</b>	)	<b>PARTY STATUS</b>
<b>Co-owners for an Energy Conversion</b>	)	
<b>Facility Permit for the Construction</b>	)	
<b>Of the Big Stone II Project</b>	)	<b>EL05-022</b>

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-17 and ARSD 20:10:22:40, the following organizations each apply for party status in the above-referenced proceeding:

Minnesotans for an Energy-Efficient Economy ("ME3"), Izaak Walton League of America -- Midwest Office ("IWLA"), and Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy ("MCEA"). SDCL 49-41B-17 (3) provides that parties to energy conversion facility permitting proceedings include "any nonprofit organization, formed in whole or in part to promote conservation or natural beauty, to protect the environment, personal health or other biological values . . . to promote consumer interests . . . or to promote the orderly development of the areas in which the facility is to be sited[.]" ME3, IWLA and MCEA each meet the definition of a party under SDCL 49-41B-17 (3).

ME3 is a non-profit organization, working in the public interest to increase commitments to renewable energy, energy efficiency in homes, government and business, to protect public health and quality of life, and to promote an energy-efficient economy.

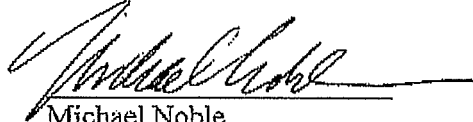
IWLA is a nonprofit conservation organization committed to protecting fish and wildlife, critical habitat, air and water resources. The Midwest Office of the IWLA works on energy and air quality issues throughout the Midwest.

MCEA is a nonprofit environmental organization that works in the courts, the legislature and state agencies to protect Minnesota's wildlife, natural resources and the health of its people. MCEA's five program areas include an Energy Program, which focuses on advancing Minnesota utilities' pursuit of environmentally sustainable sources of energy.

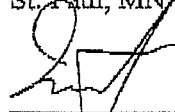
ME3, IWLA, and MCEA respectfully request that the Commission grant them each party status in this proceeding.

Dated: September 19, 2005

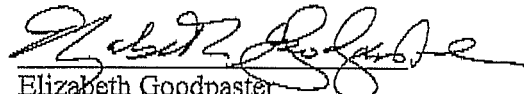
Respectfully submitted,



Michael Noble  
Executive Director  
Minnesotans for an Energy-Efficient Economy  
Minnesota Building, Suite 600  
46 East Fourth Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101




William Grant  
Executive Director  
Izaak Walton League of America - Midwest Office  
1619 Dayton Avenue, Suite 202  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55104



Elizabeth Goodpaster  
Energy Program Director  
Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy  
26 East Exchange Street, Suite 206  
St. Paul, MN 55101



Subscribed and sworn before me this 19<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2005.

  
Notary Public

