



## GRANT COUNTY SOUTH DAKOTA

PLANNING AND ZONING OFFICE

210 East 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Milbank, SD 57252-2499

Phone: 605-432-7580

Fax: 605-432-7515

April 15, 2015

Dear Cindy:

Enclosed you will find an approved copy of the Conditional Use Permit for the OtterTail Power Company. You will also see below the unofficial minutes of the meeting in which the approval was given for the project.

- a. Conditional Use Permit No. CUP03302015 by Cindy Kuismi for Otter Tail Power Company, owner, of a 250 foot strip of land running primarily North to South from Section 12, through 13 and ending in 24; and a 1320 foot by 1305 foot substation lot in Section 24, all in Township 121, Range 47, as further described in Exhibit A in Grant County, South Dakota. (Big Stone Township) to construct and operate a 345 kilovolt/230 kilovolt electric transmission substation called the Big Stone South Substation and to construct and operate two parallel 230 kilovolt electric transmission lines extending from the planned Big Stone South Substation to the existing Big Stone Plant Substation.

1.7 miles of new lines with 60-70 ft high structures in the 250 ft wide ROW parallel line path. The closer they get to the existing substation they move a bit wider apart and on the substation property they separate and 1 line comes from the South and another from the East. These lines just connect the two substations. No variances will be needed for this project. Land owner easements for the 2 outside landowners have been secured. 2015 a slight alignment revision was also approved by the landowner involved. Clarification that they are 2 230kv lines in the two lines altogether there are 32 structures- 16 on each line mostly h frame but will be some 3 pole structures as well. Will be applying for a road crossing permit and also storm water protection plan. Timeline for schedule and costs substation grading in June. Line construction and design would be September 2015. There are some updates to the existing substation at \$ 3 million, each line times two will be \$3 million, and the substation work is approximately \$25 million and will be complete in the end of 2016 and the substation will be first ¼ of 2017. Photocopies are in the agenda and a powerpoint was presented to enlarge this information for the board as well as showing the grading that would be temporary and taken out after construction. Johnson called for those opposed: Laura Kresbach questioned if this would be a new line or a replacement of a line. Johnson stated this is a new line and would eventually connect to Brookings and Ellendale ND with other projects. Stephen Vaillancourt asked if the map showed the existing WAPA line which it does not. Those in favor were called no one reported and it was closed to public comment. Mach abstained from voting as he is employed with Ottertail. Motion by Hansen second by Brandt to approve the permit request carries 6-0.

We look forward to working with you on this project and will facilitate your needs in any way we can.

Sincerely,

Krista Atyeo-Gortmaker