## 2 Preface

This document is Otter Tail Power's sixth resource plan filing to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission under MN Statute §216B.2422 and MN Rules Part 7843. The plan identifies the anticipated electric service needs of the Company's retail customers and the partial requirements contractual wholesale customers<sup>1</sup> for the 2006-2020 time period. The plan also details specific action items that Otter Tail intends to complete within the first five years of the planning period, as well as potential resources that might be used in the 6th through 15th years.

Section 3 of the document includes a checklist cross-reference. Within the checklist are the five year action plan items from Otter Tail's previous resource plan filing in 2002 (Docket No. E-017/RP-02-1168), and where updates on the status of those action items can be found. The second part of the checklist pertains to the Commission's Order with respect to the filing, and where documentation complying with the Order can be found. The last part of the checklist identifies the resource plan filing requirements identified in the statutes and rules, and refers the reader to the appropriate sections where this filing complies with the requirements.

New to this resource plan filing is the Company's plan for compliance with the Minnesota Renewable Energy Objective under MN Stat. §216B.1691.

This resource plan filing is intended to identify the Company's likely courses of action that are designed to meet the requirements of the statutes and rules, satisfy the Commission's goals in implementing its responsibilities, and allow the Company to continue providing reliable, low-cost electricity to meet the service requirements and the desires of customers, while minimizing potential adverse environmental and socioeconomic impacts in an increasingly competitive industry. There are considerable unknowns and variables, outside the control of Otter Tail Power, which will impact the actual resources selected and implemented in the future. Any long-range plan is only a "snapshot" that represents what the future looks like at a specific point in time. This fact is supported by the changes in the long-range plan of this filing compared to the prior Company resource plans approved by the Commission.

Otter Tail provides partial requirements service above the Western Area Power Administration hydroelectric allotment to the small municipals of Newfolden, Nielsville, and Shelly, MN, and Badger, SD.