



Dustin Johnson, Chair
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SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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November 15, 2010

Patricia Van Gerpen
Executive Director
SD Public Utilities Commission
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

Re: EL10-015 - In the Matter of the Petition of Otter Tail Power Company to Establish a Transmission Cost Recovery Tariff

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

On November 5, 2010, the Commission received a petition from Otter Tail Power Company ("Otter Tail") requesting approval to establish a Transmission Cost Recovery ("TCR") Tariff. As proposed, the tariff mechanism will provide for the automatic adjustment of charges to recover the jurisdictional costs of new or modified transmission facilities and federally regulated costs to increase regional transmission capacity or reliability. Otter Tail is proposing an effective date of March 1, 2011.

Pursuant to SDCL 49-1A-8, Staff asks the Commission to assess a regulatory assessment fee with respect to this filing. The statutory amount designated for the filing fee in a review of this type is \$50,000. The filing fee will account for costs associated in Staff's general review of the petition and any amounts expended on outside expert services. In addition, Staff asks that the filing fee relate back to the initial filing date to account for Staff time already dedicated to this docket.

In accordance with South Dakota Codified Law, Staff seeks Commission approval of the forgoing action on Commission Docket EL10-015. For the reasons stated above, it is proper for the Commission to grant an order in favor of this request.

Sincerely,



Ryan Soye

cc Bruce Gerhardson