

LAW OFFICES
MAY, ADAM, GERDES & THOMPSON LLP
503 SOUTH PIERRE STREET
P.O. BOX 160
PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA 57501-0160

ROBERT B. ANDERSON
TIMOTHY M. ENGEL
MICHAEL F. SHAW
BRETT KOENECKE
CHRISTINA L. KLINGER
JUSTIN L. BELL
DOUGLAS A. ABRAHAM
MALLORI M.E. BARNETT

SINCE 1881
www.magt.com

OF COUNSEL
DAVID A. GERDES
CHARLES M. THOMPSON
GLENN W. MARTENS 1881-1963
KARL GOLDSMITH 1885-1966
BRENT A. WILBUR 1949-2006

TELEPHONE
605 224-6803
TELECOPIER
605 224-6289

July 25, 2012

Writer's E-mail: brett@magt.com

SD Public Utilities Commission
Attn: Brian Rounds
500 E. Capital Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

**RE: Docket EL12-045 - In the Matter of the Request by Otter Tail Power Company
for Approval of Transfer of Construction Permit
Our File: 6500**

Dear Brian:

Recently you inquired of me regarding additional information on this docket.

Specifically, you asked how and when the company intends to recertify the permit per SDCL 49-41B-27.

Construction of the Bigstone to Brookings project will require an additional permit to construct the southern portion of the line. Xcel Energy and Otter Tail Power are currently refining the route and details of the necessary southern end of the line, that portion which has not been previously permitted. At the time of the filing of the Petition for recertification we expect that more information will be available regarding the route selection process for this southern portion of the line.

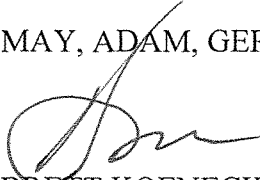
You also inquired about additional detail regarding the Company's intention to use the permit gained in EL06-002 in combination with future permits in building the Bigstone to Brookings MVP line.

The Company intends to recertify the permit by filing a petition to recertify before the end of third quarter 2012. The petition will provide an update on the project and conditions in the permit area, reaffirm the applicant's agreement to the permit conditions and stipulations as well as update the construction methods, both structures and techniques. The petition will also include an update on our work with State and Federal agencies regarding conditions in the permit area.

We trust that with this information you will see clear to put this simple matter on the next available agenda. I look forward to hearing from you.

Very truly yours,

MAY, ADAM, GERDES & THOMPSON LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brett Koenecke", written over the printed name below.

BRETT KOENECKE

BK/sjs

Cc: Darrin Larr
Kari Valley
Jennifer Smestad