

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION BY)	EL06-002
OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY ON BEHALF)	
OF SEVEN REGIONAL UTILITIES FOR A)	MOTION TO TRANSFER
PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT 5.45 MILES OF 230)	PERMIT OWNERSHIP
KV TRANSMISSION LINE, 33 MILES OF 345)	
KV TRANSMISSION LINE, THE BIG STONE)	
345 KV SUBSTATION AND MODIFICATION)	
OF THE BIG STONE 230 KV SUBSTATION)	

Otter Tail Power Company (“Otter Tail”) hereby files and moves the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) for an Order pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-29, authorizing the transfer of the permit(s) granted in the above captioned docket from the identified regional utilities (inclusive of Otter Tail) to Otter Tail exclusively, recognizing Otter Tail as the sole owner of the permit(s).


In 2006, on behalf of itself and six other regional utilities, Otter Tail filed an application for a permit to construct and upgrade substations and transmission lines. The Commission approved the application and granted the permit in an Order dated January 16, 2007. The permitted construction and upgrading was at that time related to the proposed Big Stone II electric generation project, which was the subject of a separate sitting docket, EL05-022. The proposed Big Stone II generation project was cancelled prior to construction but certain of the transmission projects permitted for construction and upgrading in this docket have continued as active projects and are currently planned for completion as part of one of the 16 Multi-Value Projects (“MVPs”) approved by the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator in December 2011. The MVPs will help expand and enhance the region’s transmission system, reduce congestion, provide access to affordable energy sources, as well as meet public policy requirements, including renewable energy.

In 2010, Otter Tail and the named regional utilities entered into a Transfer and Option Agreement. The Agreement provides that Otter Tail is authorized to request the Commission to transfer the South Dakota Route Permit issued in this docket to Otter Tail with reimbursement to the other utilities.

With this filing, Otter Tail has filed a redacted version of the Transfer and Option Agreement as Exhibit A hereto. The Agreement provides for the transfer of the route permit to Otter Tail upon its election. Otter Tail has made its election in the form of the document filed as Exhibit B hereto and reaffirms that it meets or will meet all of the requirements for the transfer of the permit as found in the attached Agreement and therefore requests the Commission grant the transfer.

Dated this 28th day of June, 2012.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Brett Koenecke of May, Adam, Gerdes & Thompson LLP, hereby certifies that on the 28th day of June, 2012, he electronically mailed, a true and correct copy of the foregoing in the above-captioned action to the following at her last known address, to-wit:

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