

Printer's Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA }
 COUNTY OF GRANT } ss.

Ann Tuchscherer

of said County and State, being first duly sworn, on oath says that the Grant County Review is a legal weekly newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Millbank, in said County of Grant and State of South Dakota, by Phyllis Justice, and has been such newspaper during the times hereinafter mentioned; that said newspaper is a legal newspaper; and that it has a bona fide circulation of more than two hundred copies weekly, and has been published within said County of Grant in the English language and has been admitted to the United States mail under second class mailing privilege, for at least one year next prior to the publication of the Notice herein mentioned, and has been printed wholly in an office maintained at the said place of publication, that I, the undersigned, Bookkeeper of said newspaper, in charge of the advertising department thereof, have personal knowledge of all the facts stated in this affidavit; that the advertisement headed Notice of

Public Hearing

a printed copy of which, taken from the paper in which the same was published, is attached to this sheet and is made a part of this Affidavit, was published in said newspaper at least once each week for Two successive weeks, on the day of each week on which the said newspaper was regularly published, to-wit:

<u>September 11 20 13</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>September 18 20 13</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>

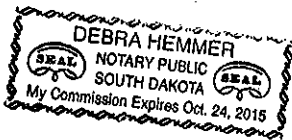
That \$ 97.83, being the full amount of the fee charged for the publication of said Notice, inures to the benefit of the publisher of the Grant County Review; that no agreement or understanding for the division thereof has been made with any person, and that no part has been agreed to be paid to any person whomsoever.

Ann Tuchscherer

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of Sept 20 13

Debra Hemmer

Notary Public, Grant County, South Dakota



Publication Fee \$ 97.83
 Notarial Fee \$ _____
 Total \$ 97.83

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Big Stone South to Ellendale 345 kV Transmission Line Project

On August, 23, 2013, jointly Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc.; a Delaware corporation, and Otter Tail Power Company, a Minnesota corporation; (jointly, the Applicants) filed with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) an Application for a Facility Permit for the Big Stone South to Ellendale 345 kV Transmission Line project (Application) and a Motion to Schedule Pre-hearing Conference (Motion). The Application requests Commission approval of a permit to construct a 345 kV transmission line of approximately 150 to 180 miles in South Dakota (Project). The line will cross the South Dakota and North Dakota border in Brown County, South Dakota, and extend south and east through Brown, Day and Grant counties to the Big Stone South Substation in Grant County, South Dakota, near Big Stone City. Modifications to the project may occur depending on the final route permitted, land rights, and final engineering design. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-41B and ARSD Chapter 20:10:22.

The Commission will hold public input hearings on the Application on **Thursday, October 17, 2013:**

Hearing 1:

12:00 p.m. CDT

Northern State University Student Center, Centennial Rooms
 1200 South Jay Street
 Aberdeen, South Dakota
 (Parking available in the lot along Washington Street between 12th and 14th Avenues)

Hearing 2:

7:00 p.m. CDT

Millbank Visitor Center, Community Room
 1001 East Fourth Avenue
 Millbank, South Dakota

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, these hearings will be held in physically accessible locations. If you have an Americans with Disabilities Act accommodation request, please contact the Public Utilities Commission at 1-800-332-1782 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing.

The purpose of these public input hearings will be to hear public comment regarding the transmission line permit Application and the project. At the hearings, Applicants will present a brief description of the project, following which, interested persons may appear and present their views, comments and questions regarding the Application. A copy of the Application is on file with the Brown, Day, and Grant County Auditors pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15(5) and at the Commissioner's office in Pierre, SD. The Application and all other documents in this case, including detailed map of the project, may be accessed on the Commission's website at www.puc.sd.gov under Commission

Actions, Commission Dockets, Electric Dockets, 2013 Electric Dockets, EL 13-028.

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-17 and ARSD 20:10:22-40, the parties to this proceeding are currently the Applicants and the Commission. Any person residing in the area of the project; each municipality, county, and governmental agency in the area where the project is proposed to be sited; any non-profit organization formed in whole or in part to promote conservation or natural beauty, to protect the environment, personal health, or other biological values, to preserve historical sites, to promote consumer interests, to represent commercial and industrial groups, or to promote the orderly development of the area in which the project is to be sited; or any interested persons, may be granted party status in this proceeding by making written application to the Commission. Applications for party status will be available at the project input hearings or may be obtained from the Commission's website or by contracting the Commission. Applications for party status must be received by the Commission on or before October 22, 2013.

Following the public input hearings, the Commission may schedule a formal evidentiary hearing conforming to SDCL Chapter 1-16 to consider any issues raised by any intervening party, Commission Staff, or the Commission itself. At such formal hearing, all parties will have the opportunity to appear, present evidence and cross-examine the other parties' witnesses and exercise all other rights afforded by SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-1, and 49-41B and ARSD Chapters 20:10:01 and 20:10:22, including the right of appeal to the courts. Absent a contested issue, the Commission will schedule the matter for decision at the regular or a special meeting of the Commission.

For approval, the Applicants must show that the proposed project will comply with all applicable laws and rules, will not pose a threat or serious injury to the environment nor to the social and economic condition of inhabitants or expected inhabitants in the siting area, will not substantially impair the health, safety or welfare of the inhabitants and will not unduly interfere with the orderly development of the region with due consideration having been given to the views of governing bodies of affected local units of government. Based upon these factors, the Commission will decide whether the permit should be granted, denied, or granted upon such terms, conditions or modifications of the construction, operation or maintenance as the Commission finds appropriate.

Published twice at an approximate cost of \$97.83.
 Sept. 11 Sept. 18