

BSS*E

Big Stone South to Ellendale

March __, 2014

ADDRESS

**RE: In the Matter of the Transmission Permit for the Big Stone South to Ellendale Project (SD PUC Docket No. EL 13-028)
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. and Otter Tail Power Company**

Dear NAME,

On August 23, 2013, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. and Otter Tail Power Company filed a Facility Permit Application with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) for the proposed Big Stone South to Ellendale 345 kV transmission line project. The project will be 160 miles to 170 miles long and routed between a new substation to be located near Ellendale in Dickey County, North Dakota, and the Big Stone South substation near Big Stone City in Grant County, South Dakota. The South Dakota portion will be about 150 to 160 miles long. Previous public input hearings occurred regarding the transmission line project on October 17, 2013.

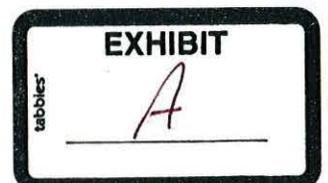
The original proposed route for the transmission line project may be revised as set forth in the attached map. You are a landowner designated to receive the property tax bill of land located within one-half mile of potential proposed, revised sites for the transmission line. Therefore, you are receiving with this letter a notice of a new public input hearing, which is scheduled for May 20, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ramada Hotel and Conference Center in Aberdeen, South Dakota. The date and time of the public input hearing is subject to change by the Commission. Visit the Commission's website at <http://puc.sd.gov> to view the docket in this matter, which is EL13-028, for orders addressing important deadlines and any change in date, time or location of the public input hearing.

Additional project information, including more detailed maps, is available at our website www.bssetransmissionline.com or by calling the information line 1-888-283-4678.

Sincerely,

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.

Otter Tail Power Company



Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. and Otter Tail Power Company
Big Stone South to Ellendale Project 345 kV Transmission Line

Henry Ford
Project Developer

Dean Pawlowski
Project Developer

Enclosures:

1. Public Hearing Notice Map
2. Notice of Application; Order and Notice of Public Input Hearing; Notice of Opportunity to Apply for Party Status dated March 17, 2014

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF) MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO. AND) OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY FOR A) PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT THE BIG STONE) SOUTH TO ELLENDALE 345 KV) TRANSMISSION LINE)	NOTICE OF APPLICATION; ORDER FOR AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC INPUT HEARING; NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO APPLY FOR PARTY STATUS
)	EL13-028

On August 23, 2013, 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 Prehearing Conference (Motion). The Application requests Commission approval of a permit to construct a 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line of approximately 150 to 160 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.

On August 26, 2013, the Commission issued a Notice of Application; Order for and Notice of Public Input Hearings; Notice of Opportunity to Apply for Party Status (Order). On August 29, 2013, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the Application and the intervention deadline of October 22, 2013, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. On September 13, 2013, the Order was served on the governing bodies of all counties and municipalities in the project area, and notices of the public hearings were published in project area newspapers as provided in SDCL 49-41B-5.2 and 49-41B-15. On September 13, 2013, the Commission issued an Order Assessing Filing Fee assessing a filing fee not to exceed the statutory maximum of \$360,000 with a minimum fee of the statutory \$8,000 minimum. The public hearings were held as scheduled on October 17, 2013, in Aberdeen and Milbank. On October 18, 2013, Gerald Pesall filed an Application for Party Status. On November 6, 2013, the Commission issued an Order Granting Intervention and Party Status to Gerald Pesall. On January 13, 2014, the Commission issued a Procedural Scheduling Order setting the matter for formal evidentiary hearing on June 10-12, 2014, in Room 413 of the State Capitol Building in Pierre beginning at 1:00 p.m. CDT with days two and three beginning at 8:00 a.m. CDT. On January 27, 2014, Applicants filed a First Amendment to Application (Amendment).

Due to Applicants having made some route changes in certain areas of the Project which will result in some additional landowners coming within the half-mile Project corridor, Applicants will be required to serve notice on such landowners and the Commission deems it proper to hold an additional public input hearing. Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15 and 49-41B-16, **the Commission will hold an additional public input hearing on the Application on Tuesday, May 20, 2014, at 6:30 p.m. CDT in Meeting Room D & H, Ramada Aberdeen Hotel and Conference Center, 2727 Sixth Ave. SE, Aberdeen, S.D. 57401.**

The purpose of this public input hearing will be to hear public comment regarding the transmission line permit Application, the Amendment, and the Project. At the hearing, 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 Commission's office in Pierre. The Application and all other documents in the case, including detailed maps of the Project, may be accessed on the Commission's web site at www.puc.sd.gov under Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Electric Dockets, 2013 Electric Dockets, EL13-028.

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-17 and ARSD 20:10:22:40, the parties to this proceeding are currently the Applicants, Gerald Pesall, 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 person, may be granted party status in this proceeding by making written application to the Commission. Applications for party status may be obtained from the Commission's web site or by contacting the Commission. Applications for party status must be received by the Commission on or before April 16, 2014.

Following the public input hearing, the Commission will hold a formal evidentiary hearing as set forth above conforming to SDCL Chapter 1-26 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 rights of appeal to the courts.

For approval, the Applicants must show that the proposed transmission Project will comply with all applicable laws and rules, will not pose a threat of 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.

It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Commission will hold an additional public input hearing on the Project on Tuesday, May 20, 2014, at 6:30 p.m. CDT in Meeting Room D & H, Ramada Aberdeen Hotel and Conference Center, 2727 Sixth Ave. SE, Aberdeen, S.D. 57401.

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, these hearings will be held in physically accessible locations. Please contact the Public Utilities Commission at 1-800-332-1782 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing if you have special needs so arrangements can be made to accommodate you.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 17th day of March, 2014.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.
By: <u>Joy Lashley</u>
Date: <u>03:17:14</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

LO Last	LO First	Add'l Name	Address	City	State	Zip
Dennert	Dana P		11821 391st Ave	Columbia	SD	57433
Dennert	H Paul & Peggy		11853 361st Ave	Columbia	SD	57433
Gruenstein	Jason E & Karen M Hauck		11896 391st Avenue	Columbia	SD	57433
Hertel	Todd W & Lynnette M		11928 389th Avenue	Westport	SD	57481
Schanzebach	Melvin & Tod		11938 389th Ave	Westport	SD	57481
Podoll	Jason P & Becky M		11954 390th Avenue	Westport	SD	57481
Podoll	Lyle A & Catherine L		11957 390th Ave	Westport	SD	57481
Podoll	Maxine		11957 390th Ave	Westport	SD	57481
Schaunamans Family Farm, Inc.			12108 389th Ave	Westport	SD	57481
Hertel	Todd W & Lynnette M		15 West Main Street E	Westport	SD	57481
Berbos	Joseph A & Nickolas J	Joe Berbos & Nick Berbos Real Estate Ltd Part	1814 130th Street NW	Aberdeen	SD	57401
Walker	Lyle	Lyle & Rosemary Walker Irrev Trust	2053 2nd Avenue	Bath	SD	57427
Schott	Walter & Phyllis A		2801 N Roosevelt St	Aberdeen	SD	57401
McMechen	Jeannine D	McMechen Living Trust	316 San Rafael Ave	Belvedere	CA	94920
Schanzebach	Tod & Melvin		37129 122nd Street	Wetonga	SD	57481
Dennert	Arnold E (Jr) & Darlene E		38778 120th Street	Westport	SD	57481
Bender	Terrance L	Shirley Ann Bender (Plummer)	38848 119th St	Westport	SD	57481
Schanzebach	Tod & Melvin		38852 120th Street	Wetonga	SD	57481
Heilman	Robert B & Michelle		38954 120th Street	Westport	SD	57481
Podoll	Joel A & Jolynn K		39010 120th Street	Westport	SD	57481
Podoll	Lyle A		39028 120th Street	Westport	SD	57481
Pierson	Gordon F		39109 119th Street	Columbia	SD	57433
Pierson	Rayma	Jr Partnership	39364 125th Street	Columbia	SD	57433
Van Dover	Lyle C	L & B Van Dover Living Trust	4 Burgundy Ct	Grand Junction	CO	81507
Birkett	Althea L		405 South High Street	Galena	IL	61036
Freichs	Ruth (Wallace J)	Jr Partnership	701 1st Ave NE, #1	Aberdeen	SD	57401
Larson	Joshua R		PO Box 106	Columbia	SD	57433
Larson	Doris Ida		PO Box 17	Columbia	SD	57433
Hayenga Land Ltd Part			13447 416th Ave	Andover	SD	57422
Horter	Steven C & Gayle		13757 SD Hwy 27	Andover	SD	57422
Zimmerman	Perry Lee		13863 418th Ave	Andover	SD	57422
Zimmerman	Randy		13868 418th Ave	Andover	SD	57422
Hansmeier	Hansmeier & Sons Corp		13899 420th Ave	Bristol	SD	57219
Marske	Dennis		13908 416th Ave	Andover	SD	57422
Olson	Clark T		13926 417th Ave	Andover	SD	57422
Olson	Joan		13926 417th Ave	Andover	SD	57422
Morehouse	Bradley R & Diann M		14026 416th Ave	Andover	SD	57422
Herr	Laron & Jolene (ETUX)		15053 420th Ave	Bristol	SD	57219
Stauch	Matthew		27384 Lyons St NE	North Branch	MN	55056
Jacobson	Allan S. (ETAL)	Elsie J Jacobsen Life Estate	2905 Elk Drive	Minot	ND	58701
Schwab	Lillian, Marie & Carl	Anton Schwab Family Trust	41335 138th St	Andover	SD	57422
McKane	James R (III) & Mavis J		41697 139th St	Andover	SD	57422
Olson	David L & Patricia J		42023 139A St	Bristol	SD	57219
Storley	Jodi Lynn		44136 130th St	Roslyn	SD	57261
Voss-Zapata	Mary Louise		4930 129th St	Hawthorne	CA	90250
Voss-Zapata	Donald F & Judith A		507 South 2nd St	Andover	SD	57422

Schuring	Randall Lee	Schuring Farms, Inc.	507 South 2nd St	Andover	SD	57422
Wilson	Coralie J	Coralie J Wilson Rev Trust Agreement	508 29th Ave SE	Albany	OR	97322-4039
Peterson	Peterson Farms, Inc.		715 W 14th Ave	Webster	SD	57274
Hansmeier	Hansmeier & Sons Corp		Box 136	Bristol	SD	57219
Schroeder	Richard		Box 54	Bristol	SD	57219
Steffes	Keith		PO Box 385	Bristol	SD	57219
Steffes	Gene		PO Box 452	Bristol	SD	57219
Steffes	Craig		PO Box 463	Bristol	SD	57219
Anderson	Kevin & Arlene P		PO Box 696	Groton	SD	57445
Bretsch	Randall J		10221 390th Ave	Frederick	SD	57441
Bretsch Legacy Ltd Part			10326 390th Ave	Frederick	SD	57441
Bretsch Real Estate Ltd Part			10326 390th Ave	Frederick	SD	57441
Witte	Brian & Lauren	Carol Witte Trust	10422 387th Ave	Frederick	SD	57441
Groop	Dale C		10628 387th Ave	Frederick	SD	57441
Jones	Lila & Raymond (Gene)		124 Oak Grove Dr	Brandon	MS	39047
Zurla (Trullender)	Mary E		1249 Roseann Dr	Martinez	CA	94553
Hill	Warren J		1312 Lawrence St	El Cerrito	CA	94530
Hill	Karen D		1818 Jefferson Ave	Longmont	CA	80501
Ehresmann Land Ltd Part			1898 Eisenhower Cir	Aberdeen	SD	57401
Hill	Donald H		2186 SW Fellows St	McMinnville	OR	97128
Slattery	Marlynda Janis Cheryl & Wendell Ernest		24481 Chrisanta Dr	Mission Viejo	CA	92691
Schilling	Robert		3323 David Drive	Napa	CA	94558
Hart	Bradley S & Shawn (Taxpayer)		38730 103rd Street	Frederick	SD	57441
Bretsch Legacy Ltd Part			38873 102nd Street	Frederick	SD	57441
Groop	Dale C		3888 101st Street	Frederick	SD	57441
Schilling	Robert		554 Ramsell St	San Francisco	CA	94132
Hill	Richard C		667 32nd Street	Richmond	CA	94804
Adams	June V	Peeters Family Trust #2	7470 Cole Ave	Highland	CA	92346
Knipe (Walter)	Barbara Janssen		819 N 24th Street	Grand Forks	ND	58203
Tiegs	Gary A		9249 State Line Road	Ellendale	ND	58436
Wright	Joel		PO Box 1086	Santaquin	UT	84655
Dinger	Violet M		PO Box 194	Hecla	SD	57446
Simon	Joey L		12773 397th Ave	Bath	SD	57427
McNickle	Monte C & Laurel		12804 396th Ave	Bath	SD	57427
Harm	Douglas H & Arlys A	Douglas Harms Irrev Trust	12912 400th Ave	Groton	SD	57445
Jones	Dennis	Jarrett Jones Real Estate Ltd Part	12954 396th Ave	Bath	SD	57427
Pray	Robert Jr & Laurie A	Robert Jr & Laurie A Pray Rev Trust	12975 Yorkville Rd	Groton	SD	57445
Erdmann	Darrin L		13004 400th Ave	Groton	SD	57445
Snover	James F & Marcia C	James & Marcis Snover Living Trusts	13049 395th Ave	Bath	SD	57427
Locken	Loren		1306 N 5th Street	Groton	SD	57445
Lawson	Dwight		13091 400th Ave	Groton	SD	57445
Knudsen	Stanley K & Kathryn F		13147 399th Ave	Groton	SD	57445-5904
Oswald	Matthew L		13148 400th Ave	Groton	SD	57445
Leonhardt	Delbert D		13148 400th Ave	Groton	SD	57445
Locken	Jon		13755 396th Ave	Bath	SD	57427
Erdmann	Bonnie L & Jerroll L		1502 Northview Ln	Aberdeen	SD	57401
Gilles	Larry Lee & Jean K		1519 Marsie Cir	Aberdeen	SD	57401

Jones	Jean Marie		1520 Northview Ln	Aberdeen	SD	57401
WJS SD Holdings LLC			17201 Beaton Rd SE	Monroe	WA	98272
Jones-Everson	Marcia Ann	Everson Family Ltd Part	2 Black Oad Rd	North Oaks	MN	55127
Armantrout	Frank G		2002 Monterey St	Bakersfield	CA	93306
VanRiper	Gary C & Sharon R		2027 Laurel Ln	Brookings	SD	57006
Sieber	Karen R & Gary		2109 Sapphire Ct	Aberdeen	SD	57401
Gengerke	Thomas W		21520 155th St	Spirit Lake	IA	51360
Sigdestad	Leonard A		2605 S Waterman Ave	San Bernadino	CA	92408
Armantrout	Jerald D	Jerald D Armantrout Trust	2608 Tangerine St	Bakersfield	CA	93306
		Owen Lee & Dana Leroy Jones, Kim Marie Schock & Karla Kay Torkelson (f/k/a Hughes) Trust Agreement				
Jones	Owen Lee		310 Bettie Ln	Brunswick	OH	44212
Davis	Kenneth C & Lois A		39448 126th Street	Bath	SD	57427
Jones	Jarret O		39595 130th St	Bath	SD	57427
Jones	Dennis	Jarrett Jones Real Estate Ltd Part	39595 130th St	Bath	SD	57427
Jones	Heidi	Heidi Jones Real Estate Ltd Part	39595 130th St	Bath	SD	57427
Dunn	William G		39612 129th St	Bath	SD	57427
East River Electric Power			39640 129th St	Cambria	SD	57427
Sieber	Karen R & Gary		39714 130th Str	Bath	SD	47427
Boynton	Charles	C & N Boynton Farm, LLC	39752 130th St	Bath	SD	57427
Leonhardt	Ellen J	Ellen J Leonhardt Rev Trust	40288 132nd St	Groton	SD	57445
Holum	Holum Farms, Inc.	Holum Farms, Inc.	4633 Montview Blvd	Denver	CO	80207
East River Electric Power			PO Box 227	Madison	SD	57042
James	Derald D	James Real Estate Ltd Part	PO Box 44	Columbia	SD	57433
Walter	Jean A		PO Box 594	Groton	SD	57445
Walter	Vernon R	Vernon R Walter Family Trust	PO Box 594	Groton	SD	57445
Cross	Braden R & Michel	Bernhart-Cross Rev Lvg Trust	1024 W Lindsey	Norman	OK	73069
Zubke	Steven, Greg & Darrell		14354 446th Ave	Waubay	SD	57273
Lesnar	Thomas M		14911 439th Ave	Webster	SD	57274
Zubke	Steven, Greg & Darrell		14992 447th Ave	Waubay	SD	57273
Jorgensen	Kenyon & Kathy		15103 442nd Ave	Waubay	SD	57273
Olson	Mildred A	c/o Barb Hough	15361 SD Hwy 25	Webster	SD	57274
Robinson	Roxanne		200 6th St NE	Watertown	SD	57201
Sikkink	Garrett & Shirley	Garrett & Shirley Sikkink Fam Trust	411 N 6th St, #3668	Emery	SD	57332-2124
Spurrell	Owen Lee	Stanley Spurrell Life Estate	431 33rd Street SW	Watertown	SD	57102
Dulitz	David & Marilyn B		43852 149th St	Webster	SD	57472
Hinze	Eddie		44045 152nd St	Waubay	SD	57273
Lebert	Ronald & Kirsten		44059 152nd St	Waubay	SD	57273
Herr	Douglas & Douglas		441 117th Ave NW	Watertown	SD	57201-1128
Gilbertson	Troy & Misti		44102 152nd St	Waubay	SD	57273
Siglin	Kevin (ETUX)		44149 152nd Street	Waubay	SD	57273-6119
Bergh	Ryan & Kim		44226 155th St	Florence	SD	57253
Davis	William L		44236 152nd Street	Waubay	SD	57273
Zubke	Greg	Zubke Bros, LLC	44549 152nd St	Waubay	SD	57273
Hendry	Jeanne E.		56 10th Ave NW	Watertown	SD	57201
Berner	Kevin		620 11th Ave SE	Watertown	SD	57201
Davis	Florence		PO Box 362	Waubay	SD	57273