

OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY

Docket No: EL20-022

Response to: SD Public Utilities Commission

Analyst: Staff

Date Received: August 26, 2020

Date Due: September 17, 2020

Date of Response: September 17, 2020

Responding Witness: Jason A. Grenier, Manager Market Planning - (218) 739-8639

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Data Request:

Explain what information Otter Tail utilizes from the Minnesota Technical Reference Manual in its modeling and provide any material changes from that used in the previously approved plan.

Attachments: 0

Response:

Otter Tail utilizes the Minnesota Technical Reference Manual version 3.1 (TRM) for most of its modeling and calculations. The TRM goes through an extensive stakeholder process every three years by a third-party selected by the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources to review the measures within the TRM. Otter Tail participates in the stakeholder process in order to ensure any changes reflect characteristics of its service area. No material changes were made between TRM version 3.1 and TRM version 2.0 used in the previously approved plan.

The Company deviates from the TRM on calculations where the TRM uses weather specific zones. Otter Tail takes these weather zones and averages them with its customer mix to get more accurate savings for its service area. It also deviates from the TRM when equipment performance is used. Otter Tail uses an average equipment performance derived from data collected from customers over the past three years of rebates submitted. These deviations from the TRM are the same changes Otter Tail used in its previously approved plan and simply updated with more recent data information.