

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

**IN THE MATTER OF OTTER TAIL POWER)
COMPANY'S PETITION FOR APPROVAL)
OF PHASE-IN RIDER RATE)
)**

**ORDER ASSESSING
FILING FEE**

EL21-017

On June 1, 2021, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a Petition by Otter Tail Power Company (Otter Tail) for approval of its annual update to its Phase-in Rate Plan Rider. Otter Tail makes this filing pursuant to SDCL 49-34A-73 through 49-34A-78. In this filing, Otter Tail proposes to adjust the Phase-in Rate Plan Rider Rate to reflect the applicable rider revenue requirements for the next recovery period (September 2021 – August 2022), to recover actual and forecasted costs for the Astoria Station Natural Gas Plant project, Merricourt Wind Project, forecasted net benefits associated with additional load in the Lake Norden area, and net savings associated with Otter Tail's retirement of its Hoot Lake Plant. Otter Tail states a typical residential electric customer using an average of 1,000 kWh per month will see a decrease of \$3.75 per month resulting from this filing. Otter Tail proposes an effective date of September 1, 2021.

On June 3, 2021, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of June 18, 2021, to interested persons and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A, specifically SDCL 49-34A-73 through 49-34A-78.

SDCL 49-34A-77 requires an electric utility filing an application for a phase-in rate plan to pay a filing fee to be determined by the Commission in an amount not to exceed \$250,000, to defray Commission expenses incident to analyzing and ruling upon this type of filing.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on June 10, 2021, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff requested that the Commission assess a filing fee not to exceed \$250,000 to account for actual expenses incurred in review of this filing. Otter Tail did not object to the fee assessment. The Commission voted unanimously to assess Otter Tail a filing fee in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 to account for actual expenses incurred in review of this filing commencing from the filing date. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Otter Tail shall be assessed a filing fee pursuant to SDCL 49-34A-77 for actual expenses incurred by the Commission commencing from the filing date not to exceed \$250,000.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 11th day of June 2021.

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, electronically or by mail.

By: *Amber M. Reiss*

Date: 6/11/2021

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner