

OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY

Docket No: EL22-025

Response to: SD Public Utilities Commission

Analyst: Brittany Mehlhaff

Date Received: October 07, 2022

Date Due: October 24, 2022

Date of Response: October 24, 2022

Responding Witness: Stuart Tommerdahl, Manager, Regulatory Administration, 218 739-8279

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Data Request:

How long does Otter Tail have to use the existing interconnection rights at Hoot Lake? If Otter Tail did not use the interconnection rights at Hoot Lake for Hoot Lake Solar, what would Otter Tail's next generation resource alternative be at this site or otherwise?

Attachments: 0

Response:

Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) rules related to replacement generation require that the replacement interconnection request be filed one year prior to the retirement of the existing plant. The coal-fired Hoot Lake plant retired in May of 2021. Any replacement request needed to be made by May of 2020, which Otter Tail did for the Hoot Lake Solar facility. The replacement facility then needs to be completed within three years of the retirement of the existing facility. As provided in response to DR SD-PUC-01.01, Otter Tail's 2017-2031 resource plan Order Point 4 from the Minnesota Commission authorized resource additions for which Hoot Lake Solar was the only authorized facility that could be designed, constructed, and completed by Otter Tail at the Hoot Lake plant location on a least cost basis within the constraints set forth in the MISO rules. Otter Tail's Merricourt Wind Energy Facility, Astoria Station natural gas peaking facility, and energy savings programs fulfilled the other aspects of Order Point 4. Alternatively, Otter Tail would not have added solar generation at another location because our analysis showed Hoot Lake Solar to be the least-cost solar generation addition and our Hoot Lake interconnection rights would have been forfeited.