



October 18, 2022

Patricia Van Gerpen, Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
Capitol Building, 1st Floor
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

**RE: Notice of Intent to Construct, Own, and Maintain the Big Stone
South – Alexandria 345-kV Transmission Project
Docket No. EL22-**

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen,

Pursuant to S.D. CODIFIED LAWS § 49-32-20, Otter Tail Power Company (Otter Tail) and Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (Western Minnesota), through its agent Missouri River Energy Services, (collectively, the Companies) respectfully submit this notice to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission that the Companies intend to construct, own, and maintain the Big Stone South – Alexandria 345 kV transmission line project to be located in northeast South Dakota and west central Minnesota as described herein.

On July 25, 2022, Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (MISO), a federally registered Planning Authority, approved an addendum to the 2021 MISO Transmission Expansion Plan (MTEP21) called the *Long Range Transmission Planning Tranche 1 Portfolio*, which included the Big Stone South – Alexandria – Cassie’s Crossing 345 kV transmission line project (LRTP-2 Project). Specifically, the Big Stone South – Alexandria 345 kV transmission line will connect Otter Tail’s existing Big Stone South substation in northeast South Dakota to Western Minnesota’s existing substation near Alexandria, Minnesota.

As required by S.D. CODIFIED LAWS § 49-32-20, the Companies intend to file a Route Permit application in accordance with S.D. CODIFIED LAWS § 49-41B for the Commission’s approval of the South Dakota portion of the Big Stone South – Alexandria 345 kV project within 18 months of the date of this letter.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact either Jason Weiers, Manager, Delivery Planning at jweiers@otpc.com, 218-739-8311 or Robert Endris, Associate General Counsel at rendris@otpc.com, 218-739-8234.

Respectfully submitted,

/S/ JOANN THOMPSON

JoAnn Thompson
Vice President, Asset Management
Otter Tail Power Company

/S/ TERRY WOLF

Terry Wolf
Vice President, Power Supply and Operations
Missouri River Energy Services, as agent for
Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency