

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

IN THE MATTER OF OTTER TAIL POWER)	ORDER GRANTING APPROVAL
COMPANY'S PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF AN)	OF AN ELECTRIC SERVICE
ELECTRIC SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR BIG)	AGREEMENT WITH
STONE SOUTH ENERGY STORAGE PROJECT,)	DEVIATIONS; ORDER
LLC AND ASSOCIATED TARIFF REVISIONS)	APPROVING TARIFF
)	REVISIONS
)	
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)	
)	EL25-015

On April 22, 2025, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing by Otter Tail Power Company (Otter Tail) for approval of an Electric Service Agreement with deviations (ESA) with Big Stone South Energy Storage Project, LLC (BSESP). BSESP will be a large load at a new location with an estimated partially controllable demand of 155,000 kW when operating at full capacity. BSESP plans to run a thermal storage facility. BSESP will use electricity to heat blocks of carbon, which store heat, which in turn will be used to heat water to create steam. BSESP will then pipe the steam to nearby bio-fuels company, POET Biorefining – Big Stone, LLC (POET) for use in its industrial processes. Otter Tail plans to serve BSESP via new distribution assets including two new transformers and two new sections of underground cable that will independently connect BSESP and POET through Otter Tail's Big Stone South Substation. Otter Tail has entered into an ESA with BSESP, conditioned upon Commission approval, with a 20-year term and protections for other customers and the Company, where the customer would take service of its firm load via the Large General Service Tariff Section 10.04, and its non-firm load via the Company's new Thermal Market Energy Pricing Rider. Key deviations of the proposed ESA have been filed as confidential.

The revised tariff sheets are as follows:

South Dakota P.U.C. Volume II-Electric Rate Schedule

Section. 16.00

Tenth Revised Sheet No. 1

Cancelling Ninth Revised Sheet No. 1

On April 24, 2025, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of May 9, 2025, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. On May 29 and June 17, 2025, Otter Tail responded to staff's data requests.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-8.3, 49-34A-10, and 49-34A-11.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on July 15, 2025, the Commission considered this matter. Finding that the Otter Tail's request for approval of an electric service agreement with deviations with BSESP and the associated tariff revisions are just and reasonable, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the requested electric service agreement with deviations and the associated tariff revisions with an effective date of August 1, 2025. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the requested electric service agreement with deviations with Big Stone Energy Storage Project, LLC is hereby granted. It is further

ORDERED, that Otter Tail's request to revise its aforementioned tariff sheet is hereby granted, and the revisions are approved, effective August 1, 2025.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 17th day of July 2025.

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:	<u>Kristie Fiegen</u>
Date:	<u>17 July 2025</u>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner