

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

IN THE MATTER OF OTTER TAIL POWER)	ORDER ASSESSING FILING
COMPANY'S PETITION FOR APPROVAL)	FEE; ORDER AUTHORIZING
OF RATE SCHEDULE, SECTION 13.09,)	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO
PHASE-IN RIDER)	ENTER INTO CONSULTING
)	CONTRACTS
)	
)	
)	EL26-016
)	

On May 21, 2026, 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 1, 2026 – August 31, 2027), to recover actual and forecasted costs associated with Production Tax Credits related to the Merricourt Wind Facility and the Repowers at Langdon, Ashtabula I, Luverne and Ashtabula III; Solway Solar; Abercrombie Solar; and Demand Response system replacement. The filing also includes a request for approval to recover costs for four new projects, Hoot Lake Battery Energy Storage System, Big Stone Area Substation, Milbank Customer Service Center Remodel Project, and Airplane Engine Overhaul. The filing also discusses adjustments to the Big Stone Area Load Growth Credit and the Insurance Net Credit Calculation. Otter Tail states a typical residential electric customer using an average of 1,000 kWh per month will see an increase of \$19.16 per month. A Large General Service customer using 486 kW and 222,350 kWh per month will see an increase of \$12,514.26 per month. The Phase-In Per Meter rates will increase from \$0.07 to \$0.08 per meter for residential customers and decrease by \$0.23 per meter for Large General Service Customers. Otter Tail proposes an effective date of September 1, 2026.

On May 28, 2026, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of June 12, 2026, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments have been filed to date.

The Commission has jurisdiction in 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 2, 2026, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission voted unanimously to assess a filing fee as requested by Commission staff up to the statutory limit of \$250,000 to account for actual expenses incurred in review of this filing commencing from the filing date and to give the executive director authority to enter into consulting contracts. 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. It is further

ORDERED, that the executive director shall have the authority to enter into necessary consulting contracts.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 3rd day of June 2026.

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><i>Kristie Fiegen</i></u>
Date:	<u>3 June 2026</u>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner