BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF XCEL ENERGY AND OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY FOR AN ENERGY FACILITY PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT THE POWERON MIDWEST PROJECT CONSISTING OF A 765-KV TRANSMISSION LINE, A 345-KV TRANSMISSION LINE, AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES	))))))))	**ORDER DENYING REQUEST FOR ACCESS** **EL26-026**

On September 4, 2026, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a facility permit application (Application) from Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, and Otter Tail Power Company for the PowerOn: Big Stone South to Brookings County to South Dakota/Minnesota Border Project. Included in the Application as Appendix D – Level I Cultural Resource Records Search. This Cultural Resource information was filed as a confidential document. On October 2, 2026, Suzie Pratt, a non-party to the docket, filed a Request for Access to Confidential Information under ARSD 20:10:01:43. In her request, Ms. Pratt seeks access to the Cultural Resource information. Pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:42, the Commission must determine confidentiality when a request for access to information filed confidentially has been made.

On September 10, 2026, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of November 3, 2026, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filing electronic listserv. On October 2, 2026, Suzie Pratt, a non-party to the docket, filed a Request for Access to Confidential Information under ARSD 20:10:01:43. In her request, Ms. Pratt seeks access to the Cultural Resource information. Pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:42, the Commission must determine confidentiality when a request for access to information filed confidentially has been properly made by a party with standing to bring such a request.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-1-11 and ARSD 20:10:01:42.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on November 4, 2026, the Commission considered this matter. Finding that Ms. Pratt lacks standing to make this request as a non-party to the docket, the Commission voted unanimously to deny the request. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Ms. Pratt's request for access is hereby denied.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 9th day of November 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: Kristie Edwards

Date: 9 Nov 2026

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

GARY HANSON, Commissioner