

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF	)	ORDER FOR AND NOTICE OF
XCEL ENERGY AND OTTER TAIL POWER	)	HEARING ON APPLICATIONS
COMPANY FOR AN ENERGY FACILITY	)	FOR PARTY STATUS
PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT THE POWERON	)	
MIDWEST PROJECT CONSISTING OF A	)	
765-KV TRANSMISSION LINE, AND	)	EL26-026
ASSOCIATED FACILITIES	)	

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, (collectively, Applicants) for the PowerOn: Big Stone South to Brookings County to South Dakota/Minnesota Border Project (Project). The Project will consist of an approximately ninety-mile long 765 kilovolt (kV) transmission line located in Grant, Deuel and Brookings Counties in South Dakota and associated facilities including the Big Stone Station Expansion in Grant County, and the 345 kV Brookings County Substation expansion (consisting of an expansion of the current 345 kV Brookings County Substation and a new expansion area to enable the 765 kV connection approximately five miles away) in Brookings County. The Project also includes an approximately five-mile long 345 kV transmission line connecting the Brookings County 345 kV Substation Expansion to the Brookings County 765 kV Substation expansion.

The original parties to this docket, pursuant to SDCL 49-418-17, are Applicants and Commission Staff (Staff). On September 30, 2026, Lake Cochrane Improvement Association (LCIA) filed an application for party status. On October 14, 2026, the Commission received PowerOn Midwest's Response to Lake Cochrane Improvement Association's Application for Party Status. On October 16, 2026, the Commission received a Petition to Intervene from Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (MISO).

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-41B. Pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:15.04, a party may respond to a petition for intervention or application for party status before the hearing date or within fifteen days after the petition is filed, thereafter, pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:15.05, the Commission shall hear the petition as soon as practicable.

It is therefore

ORDERED, that Lake Cochrane Improvement Association and Staff may file a reply to Applicants Response no later than October 29, 2026. It is further

ORDERED, that the parties may respond to MISO's Petition for Intervention no later than October 29, 2026. It is further

ORDERED, that the Commission will consider LCIA's and MISO's applications for party status at its regularly scheduled meeting on November 4, 2026, 9:30 a.m. CT in Room 413 of the Capitol Building, 500 East Capitol Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota. It is further

ORDERED, that any applications for party status received after October 16, 2026 will be considered at a future commission meeting.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 19th day of October 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 Fiegen

Date: 19 October 2026

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner