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, AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES	)))))))	**ORDER FOR AND NOTICE OF HEARING ON APPLICATIONS FOR PARTY STATUS** **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, (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), and MISO was granted Party Status on November 9, 2026. 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. Between October 20, 2026, and November 3, 2026, the Commission received approximately eighty Applications for Party Status. The Commission also received two Application for Party Status after the November 3, 2026, deadline. All applications for party status are published on the commission's website at https://puc.sd.gov/Dockets/Electric/2026/EL26-026partystatus.aspx. On November 4, 2026, Applicants filed a Response to Applications for Party Status between October 20 and October 28, 2026.

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 the parties may respond to an Application for Party Status within fifteen days after filing, or no later than 12:00 p.m. CT on November 13, 2026, whichever is earlier. It is further

ORDERED, that any person whose Application for Party Status is objected to may file a written response to the objection no later than 12:00 p.m. CT on November 18, 2026. It is further

ORDERED, that the Commission will consider all pending Applications for Party Status received on or before November 9, 2026, at its regularly scheduled meeting on November 19, 2026, 9:30 a.m. CT in Room 413 of the Capitol Building, 500 East Capitol Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 10th 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: 10 Nov 2026

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

GARY HANSON, Commissioner