BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY FOR A FACILITY PERMIT FOR THE BIG STONE SOUTH TO HANKINSON TO BISON 345 KV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT	**ORDER DENYING REQUEST FOR ACCESS** **EL26-028**

On September 8, 2026, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an Application from Otter Tail Power Company (Applicant) for a Transmission Facility Permit for an electric transmission line in Grant and Roberts Counties, South Dakota. Specifically, Applicant proposes to construct a new 345kV electric transmission line. Included in the Application as Appendix F – Level I Cultural Resource Records Search. This Cultural Resource information was filed as a confidential document.

On September 10, 2026, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of November 9, 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 4th 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: 4 Nov 2026

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

GARY HANSON, Commissioner