BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
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	APPLICATION FOR PARTY STATUS **EL26-028**

LOUIS & AMANDA NIGG, married persons and residing at 46356 125th St., Sisseton, SD 57262 ("Applicants") hereby apply to the Public Utilities Commission for party status in this matter (the "Project"). LOUIS NIGG received official notice of the Project via U.S. Mail from the siting permit applicant.

Applicants reside at the address stated below, within the South Half (S1/2) of Section 28-Township 125 North-Range 50 West of the 5th P.M.-Easter Township, Roberts County, South Dakota. Applicants' home is within one (1) mile of the proposed Project's route. Applicants also own and operate agricultural lands within one (1) mile or less of the proposed route; this includes parcels within Sections 27, 28, 33 and 34 of Easter Township, Roberts County, plus additional lands held by long-term leases.

Applicants farm cropland, hay ground and pasture in the sections identified, with a stock pond in Section 33, near the proposed route, and a grain site in Section 27 where they work daily. Applicants use aerial and drone application of crop inputs, and their farm equipment uses GPS guidance. Applicants' drone applicator advises no operations within one-half mile of lines such as the Project proposes. The Project's imposing presence near or over Applicants' farming operations is a clear detriment, hindrance and danger to Applicants' use of their own lands.

Applicants further state and allege: the Project's route, as presently understood by Louis and Amanda Nigg, is either proposed to pass upon and through the lands owned or leased by them, or by means of a route immediately adjacent to Applicants' lands. There is presently *no* known easement to accommodate this intended land use by Otter Tail Power Company, and these Applicants are *not* inclined to volitionally provide any such easement or privilege.

Applicants submit they are entitled to party status in this matter and that they be afforded all rights of a contested case hearing.

Respectfully submitted,
Applicants for Party Status:

Date: October 27, 2026

/s/ Louis Nigg
LOUIS NIGG
46356 125th St., Sisseton, SD 57262
E-mail: niggfarms1910@gmail.com

/s/ Amanda Nigg
AMANDA NIGG
46356 125th St., Sisseton, SD 57262
E-mail: amanda@farmfitmomma.com

Certificate of Service:

Undersigned, as an *Applicant for Party Status*, certifies on the date below entered a true and correct copy of the foregoing Application for Party Status was served by electronic mail on each of the following known parties of interest in Docket EL26-028, namely:

Ms. Leah Mohr
Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501
Leah.Mohr@state.sd.us
(605) 773-3201

Mr. Logan Schaefbauer
Staff Attorney
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501
Logan.Schaefbauer@state.sd.us
(605) 773-3201

Mr. Jon Thurber
Staff Analyst
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501
Jon.Thurber@state.sd.us
(605) 773-3201

Ms. Anuja Oke
Staff Analyst
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501
Anuja.Oke@state.sd.us
(605) 773-3201

Ms. JoAnn Thompson
Vice President, Asset Management
Otter Tail Power Company
215 South Cascade Street
PO Box 496
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
jthompson@otpco.com
(218) 739-8594

Mr. Robert Endris
Associate General Counsel

Otter Tail Power Company
215 S. Cascade Street
PO Box 496
Fergus Falls, MN 56538-0496
rendris@otpco.com

Regulatory Filing Coordinator
Otter Tail Power Company
215 South Cascade Street
PO Box 496
Fergus Falls, MN 56538-0496
regulatory_filing_coordinators@otpco.com

Mr. Jason R. Sutton - representing Otter Tail Power Company
Attorney
Boyce Law Firm, LLP
300 S. Main Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
jrsutton@boycelaw.com
(605) 336-2424

Mr. Brock A. Brown - representing Otter Tail Power Company
Attorney
Boyce Law Firm, LLP
300 S. Main Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
babrown@boycelaw.com
(605) 336-2424

Mr. Craig Steingaard
Senior Transmission Project Developer
Otter Tail Power Company
215 S Cascade St
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
csteingaard@otpco.com
(218) 739-8335

Mr. Nicholas Olson
Senior Project Manager
Otter Tail Power Company
215 S Cascade St
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
nolson@otpco.com
(218) 739-8417

/s/ Amanda Nigg

Date: October 27, 2026

Amanda Nigg,
One of the Applicants for Party Status