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SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

I hereby certify that the public notice detailed below was published on the run date(s) indicated in the publication identified below, a legal newspaper as defined by SDCL 17-2, in the city of Sisseton, county of Roberts, South Dakota.

Dated: 10.20.2026

Signed: _____
Print Name: Sandy DeBeer, Advertising Placement Coordinator

Notary Public: _____
My commission expires: May 4, 2027

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Sisseton Courier (Sisseton, SD)

Run Date	*Ad Size*	*Caption / Position / Special Instructions*	*Total Cost to Publish*
Tue 09/15/26	3.00 X 9.00	**Caption:** Notice of Public Meetings: OtterTail Power Company to Construct Big Stone I Grant & Roberts Counties	$708.75
Tue 09/29/26	3.00 X 9.00	**Caption:** Notice of Public Meetings: OtterTail Power Company to Construct Big Stone I Grant & Roberts Counties	
Tue 10/13/26	3.00 X 9.00	**Caption:** Notice of Public Meetings: OtterTail Power Company to Construct Big Stone I Grant & Roberts Counties	

South Dakota NewsMedia Association
South Dakota Newspaper Services, Inc.
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Brookings, South Dakota 57006
Phone: 800-658-3697

to continue that work on behalf of all 'citizens,'" Chief Justice Jensen said.

The FY 2026 Annual Report can be viewed online. For more information, contact Alisa Bousa, Unified Judicial System public information officer, at 605-773-2031 or via email.

2026 marks the 86th celebration of National Newspaper Week. Since 1940, Newspaper Association Managers has sponsored and supported National Newspaper Week, a week-long promotion of the newspaper industry in the United states and Canada.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

WHAT: **In the Matter of the Application of Otter Tail Power Company for a Facility Permit to Construct the Big Stone South to Hankinson to Bison 345 kV Transmission Line Project in Grant and Roberts Counties, South Dakota**

WHEN AND WHERE:

MILBANK: **Wednesday, October 21, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. CT**
Milbank School Theater, 1001 E. Park Avenue, Milbank, SD 57252

ROSHOLT: **Thursday, October 22, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. CT**
Rosholt Community Center, 19 E. Main St., Rosholt, SD 57260

Pursuant to SDCL chapter 49-41B, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) will hold a public input meeting at the above time and place on an application to construct the Big Stone South to Hankinson to Bison project (Project), an approximately 71-mile long 345 kV electric transmission line with a requested 150-foot right-of-way along the length of the transmission line. The Project would extend from the existing Big Stone South Substation located west of Big Stone City, South Dakota, to the South Dakota – North Dakota border at a location northeast of New Effington, South Dakota, between Lien and Victor Townships. The Project will consist of single-circuit transmission structures constructed on steel, single-pole (monopole) structures. The Project will also involve modifications to the existing Big Stone South Substation to accommodate new breaker positions, switches for the new single-circuit 345 kV transmission line, and relocation of the 345 kV Big Stone South to Ellendale termination into the substation. Facility components will also include temporary laydown/staging areas, pulling/tensioning sites, and access roads. The Project is expected to be located along 1,286.4 acres of right-of-way located in South Dakota, with 1.1 total acres of land being permanently impacted by the facility structures. The Project estimates construction costs between $190.6 to $228.7 million and is expected to start construction in 2030, complete in 2033, and in service by the first quarter of 2034.

The purpose of each of the public input meetings will be to hear public comments regarding the permit Application and the Project. At each meeting, Applicant, Otter Tail Power Company, will present a brief description of the Project, following which interested persons may appear and present their views, comments and questions regarding the Application. A copy of the Application is on file with the Grant and Roberts County auditors and on the Commission's website. The Application and all other documents in the case, including detailed maps of the Project may be accessed on the Commission's website at puc.sd.gov under Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Electric Dockets, 2026 Electric Dockets, EL26-028.

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-17 and ARSD 20:10:22:40, the parties to this proceeding are currently the Applicant and the Commission Staff. Each municipality, county, and governmental agency in the area where the facility is proposed to be sited; or any person residing in the area where the facility is proposed to be sited, or any directly interested person, may be granted party status in this proceeding by making timely written application to the Commission. Applications for party status will be available at the public input meeting or may be obtained from the Commission's website. Applications for party status must be filed with the Commission on or before 5:00 p.m., CT, November 9, 2026. All party status applications are subject to the approval of the Commission.

The Commission will also accept comments in writing, either by mail, personal delivery, or e-mail until the time of the decision. You only need to apply for party status if you want to participate formally in the case by providing testimony or other factual evidence, conducting discovery, cross-examining witnesses, making legal arguments, and to preserve your right to appeal to the courts if you do not believe the Commission's decision is legally correct. You do not need to have party status in order to submit written comments.

Following the public input meeting, the Commission may schedule a formal evidentiary hearing conforming to SDCL Chapter 1-26 to consider any issues raised by any intervening party, the Commission's staff, or the Commission itself. At such formal hearing, all parties will have the opportunity to appear, present evidence, and cross-examine the other parties' witnesses and exercise all other rights afforded by SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-1, and 49-41B and ARSD Chapters 20:10:01 and 20:10:22, including rights of appeal to the courts.

For approval, the Applicants must show that the proposed Project will comply with all applicable laws and rules, will not pose a threat of serious injury to the environment nor to the social and economic condition of inhabitants or expected inhabitants in the siting area, will not substantially impair the health, safety or welfare of the inhabitants, and will not unduly interfere with the orderly development of the region with due consideration having been given to the views of governing bodies of affected local units of government. Based upon these factors, the Commission will decide whether the permit should be granted, denied, or granted upon such terms, conditions, or modifications of the construction, operation, or maintenance as the Commission finds appropriate.

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, this hearing is being held in a physically accessible location. Please contact the Commission at least 48 hours prior to the meeting if you have special needs so arrangements can be made to accommodate you. The Commission's contact information is: ph (605) 773-3201; puc.sd.gov; puc@state.sd.us; 500 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, SD 57501.

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