

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF OTTER TAIL  
POWER COMPANY FOR ORDER ACCEPTING  
CERTIFICATION OF PERMIT ISSUED IN DOCKET  
EL06-002 TO CONSTRUCT BIG STONE  
TRANSMISSION LINE AND SUBSTATIONS IN  
GRANT AND DEUEL COUNTIES** )

**ORDER GRANTING MOTION  
FOR RELEASE OF BOND**

**EL12-063**

On December 19, 2012, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a petition from Otter Tail Power Company (Otter Tail) requesting the Commission to accept certification that the conditions leading to the issuance of the January 16, 2007, Decision and Order Approving Stipulation and Granting Permit to Construct Transmission Facilities in Docket EL06-002 will continue to be met. On March 19, 2013, Otter Tail filed a Certification that the conditions upon which the Commission granted the facility permit will continue to be met along the route as described in its petition. On April 2, 2013, a Joint Motion for Approval of Stipulation and a Stipulation were filed with the Commission. On May 10, 2013, the Commission issued an Order Approving the Joint Motion for Approval of Stipulation; Order Granting Certification which included a requirement that Otter Tail furnish an indemnity bond in the amount of \$150,000 pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-38. On May 21, 2015, Otter Tail submitted the bond. On December 20, 2017, Otter Tail filed a Motion for Release of Bond stating that the construction was complete and the roads have been maintained and fixed as necessary to the satisfaction of the local governments. Haul Route Inspection Reports with signed bond releases for the impacted counties and townships were also filed.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-41B, specifically 49-41B-38.

At its regular meeting on January 16, 2018, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission voted unanimously to grant Otter Tail's Motion for Release of Bond and authorize the executive director or general counsel to execute any necessary release documents to release Liberty Mutual Insurance Company Bond No. 190033663. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Motion for Release of Bond is hereby granted and the executive director or commission counsel is authorized to execute any necessary release document to release Liberty Mutual Insurance Company Bond No. 190033663.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 25<sup>th</sup> of January 2018.

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| <b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>   |
| 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: <u>Karen E. Cromer</u>  |
| Date: <u>01/25/18</u>   |
| (OFFICIAL SEAL)   |

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kristie Fiegen  
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Chairperson

Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Chris Nelson  
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner