

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF)	ORDER GRANTING JOINT MOTION
OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY FOR)	FOR APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT
APPROVAL OF THE TRANSMISSION COST)	STIPULATION; ORDER
RECOVERY RIDER RATE)	APPROVING SETTLEMENT
)	STIPULATION
)	
)	EL18-048

On October 31, 2018, Otter Tail Power Company (OTP) filed a petition for approval of its 2019 Transmission Cost Recovery (TCR) Rider. On February 20, 2019, the Commission issued an Order Approving 2019 Transmission Cost Recovery Rate Adjustment for rates effective March 1, 2019. On July 1, 2019, OTP and Staff (Parties) filed a Joint Motion for Approval of Stipulation on Correcting Electric Plant In Service – Transmission Rate Base Total. This Stipulation was prepared and executed by the Parties for the purpose of equitably and efficiently addressing a mistake in OTP's reported rate base in Docket EL18-021. The Parties agree that this error, arising from a rate base adjustment for the Big Stone Area Transmission to Brookings project, should be corrected and the most appropriate vehicle for achieving this end is OTP's TCR Rider. The Stipulation specifies the Parties agree that OTP will file an update to the TCR Rider at a time to permit the rates reflecting the correction to go into effect on October 1, 2019.

On November 1, 2018, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of November 16, 2018, to interested entities and persons on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. On November 16, 2018, the Commission issued an Order Assessing Filing Fee.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-25.1 through 49-34A-25.4.

The Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation was noticed for Commission consideration and action at its regularly scheduled meeting on July 9, 2019. The Commission heard from OTP and staff concerning the Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation and the related Settlement Stipulation. Having thoroughly reviewed the filings in the docket and after making further inquiry of the parties, the Commission found that the terms and conditions proposed in the Settlement Stipulation were just, reasonable, and in the public interest, and that good and sufficient cause was demonstrated to approve the Settlement Stipulation. The Commission voted unanimously to grant the Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation and approve the Settlement Stipulation. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation is hereby granted, and the Settlement Stipulation is hereby approved. The Settlement Stipulation is incorporated by reference into this Order the same as if it had been set forth in its entirety herein.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 11th day of July 2019.

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:	<u>Adam De Hueck</u>
Date:	<u>7/11/19</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner