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December 11, 2007

## VIA EMAIL & REGULAR MAIL

Honorable Al Wahl  
Office of Administrative Hearings  
1707 North 9th Street  
Bismarck, North Dakota 58501-1882

**Re: Montana Dakota Utilities Co., and Otter Tail Corporation; Advance  
Determination of Prudence, Big Stone II Generating Station  
Case Nos. PU-06-481 and PU-06-482**

Dear Judge Wahl:

I am writing to request that you schedule a prehearing conference in the above matter as soon as possible so the parties can discuss the next steps, including establishing a procedural schedule for further supplemental hearings.

By letter dated October 4, 2007, the Applicants informed the Commission that in light of the withdrawal from the project from two participants, it would be important to supplement the record in this combined case with additional resource planning analysis. At the time of the letter, however, the Applicants had not yet obtained a procedural schedule from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission regarding the Applicants' (along with their other co-owners') certificate of need matter involving the proposed transmission lines in Minnesota, which proceeding also necessitated a supplemental hearing. Because the Applicants wanted to avoid a schedule that overlapped with the Minnesota schedule, the Applicants believed it prudent to obtain the procedural schedule in that case before making any procedural/schedule recommendations in this case.

The Minnesota matter is scheduled for two days of supplemental hearings on January 23-24, with briefs, etc. to follow. A final decision is expected from the Minnesota Commission in mid-April 2008.

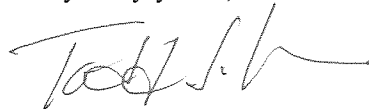
Given that the Minnesota schedule is now established, we believe that it is appropriate to get staff and parties together to establish a schedule for additional hearings in this case. Once you establish a date for a pre-hearing, Applicants will be prepared to offer a proposed schedule and will make that available to all parties prior to the pre-hearing.

December 11, 2007

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Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to hearing from you. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd J. Guerrero", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Todd J. Guerrero

TJG/kas

c: Attached Service List

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**  
**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Otter Tail Corporation, Advance  
Determination of Prudence  
Application

**AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE**

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.,  
a Division of MDU Resources Group,  
Inc., Advance Determination of Prudence  
Application


Case Nos. PU-06-481, PU 06-482

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Kristen A. Swenson, of the City of Minneapolis, County of Hennepin, in the State of Minnesota, being duly sworn on oath says: that on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2007, she served the following:

1. Letter to the Honorable Al Wahl, Office of Administrative Hearings, dated December 11, 2007; and
2. An Affidavit of Service.

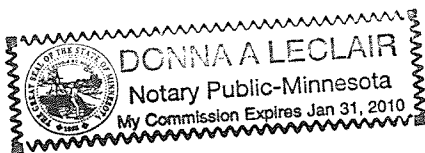
A copy has also been served upon the attached service list via electronic mail and U.S. Mail.

  
Kristen A. Swenson

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2007.



Notary Public



**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**  
**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Otter Tail Corporation, Advance  
Determination of Prudence  
Application

**SERVICE LIST**

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.,  
a Division of MDU Resources Group,  
Inc., Advance Determination of Prudence  
Application

Case Nos. PU-06-481, PU 06-482

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