

215 South Cascade Street  
PO Box 496  
Fergus Falls, Minnesota 56538-0496  
218 739-8200  
www.otpco.com (web site)

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DEC 31 2008

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



**VIA E-FILING AND OVERNIGHT DELIVERY**

December 31, 2008

Darrell Nitschke  
Public Utilities Division  
ND Public Service Commission  
600 E Boulevard, Dept. 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505

**Subject: Otter Tail Power Company's 2008 Sample Meter Test Performance Report**

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Pursuant to North Dakota Rule 69-06-02-28(3), enclosed, as Attachment 1, are the results from the 2008 single-phase kwh sample meter test program for Otter Tail Power Company. There were nine groups of meters selected. Criterion for selecting the groups, as set forth in the rate schedule, was based on the time period the meters were purchased, manufacturer, and model of meters. The meters were grouped as follows:

1. GE and SI meters purchased from 1998 to present.
2. GE, model I70S metes purchased from 1969 to 1997.
3. SI model J4S, J5S meters purchased from 1969 to 1997.
4. LG model MS, MX meters purchased from 1969 to 1997.
5. ABB model D4S meters purchased from 1969 to 1974.
6. ABB model D4S meters purchased from 1975 to 1982.
7. ABB model AB1 meters.
8. ABB model D5S meters purchased from 1990 to 1997.
9. GE model I50S meters.

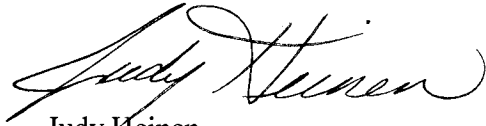
The results of the Sample test this year indicates that the ABB Model AB1 meters failed the Sample test. There are about 4,800 of these meters left in service. These meters will be removed from service within the next 5 years as part of the rate schedule. The other groups passed the test and are performing satisfactorily. In 2007, a range of ABB meters manufactured from 1983 to 1985 failed the test. These meters are being removed from service over the remaining 4 out of 5 years as outlined in the rate schedule. All other groups of meters that have failed the Sample test in past years have been removed from service.

Mr. Darrell Nitschke  
December 31, 2008  
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An electronic copy of this filing was sent to you at [dnitschk@nd.gov](mailto:dnitschk@nd.gov) and the following address:  
[ndpsc@nd.gov](mailto:ndpsc@nd.gov).

Should you have any questions, please contact me at 218-739-8395 or [jheinen@otpc.com](mailto:jheinen@otpc.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judy Heinen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "H".

Judy Heinen  
Tariff Specialist  
Regulatory Services

Enclosures

**OTTER TAIL POWER CO.**

12/30/2008

**SAMPLE METER TEST CALCULATION FORM**

Attachment 1  
Page 1 of 9

**METERS IN SERVICE AT OTTER TAIL POWER CO.**

REFERENCE - TABLES A-2, B-3, B-4, B-5, AND EXAMPLE B-3 OF MIL-STD-414.

TYPE OF METERS IN THIS SAMPLE: 2008 Sample #1

LOT SIZE \_\_\_\_\_ SAMPLE SIZE 101 AQL 2.5

FL BAR X 99.861 FL SIGMA 0.263  
LL BAR X 99.466 LL SIGMA 0.533

ESTIMATE OF LOT ABOVE 102.0%

$$FL\ QU = \frac{102 - FL\ BAR\ X}{FL\ SIGMA} = \frac{102 - 99.861}{0.263} = \frac{2.139}{0.263} = \underline{8.13}$$

$$LL\ QU = \frac{102 - LL\ BAR\ X}{LL\ SIGMA} = \frac{102 - 99.466}{0.533} = \frac{2.534}{0.533} = \underline{4.75}$$

From Table B-5 = 0 % PU FL above 102.0%

0 % PU LL above 102.0 %

ESTIMATE OF LOT BELOW 98.0%

$$FL\ QL = \frac{FL\ BAR\ X - 98}{FL\ SIGMA} = \frac{99.861 - 98}{0.263} = \frac{1.861}{0.263} = \underline{7.08}$$

$$LL\ QL = \frac{LL\ BAR\ X - 98}{LL\ SIGMA} = \frac{99.466 - 98}{0.533} = \frac{1.466}{0.533} = \underline{2.75}$$

From table B-5 = 0 % PL FL below 98.0 %

0.257 % PL LL below 98.0%

TOTAL PERCENT DEFECTIVE

Full Load P = PU FL + PL FL 0 + 0 = 0.000

Light Load P = PU LL + PL LL 0 + 0.257 = 0.257

ALLOWABLE PERCENT DEFECTIVE: TABLE B-3 4.69

OUTLIERS

UFL = FL BAR X + (4 x FL Sigma) 99.861 + 1.052 UFL = 100.913

LFL = FL BAR X - (4 x FL Sigma) 99.861 - 1.052 LFL = 98.809

ULL = LL BAR X + (4 x LL Sigma) 99.466 + 2.132 ULL = 101.598

LLL = LL BAR X - (4 x LL Sigma) 99.466 - 2.132 LLL = 97.334

Lot is acceptable  Lot is unacceptable

Signature: Steve Nes



**OTTER TAIL POWER CO.  
SAMPLE METER TEST CALCULATION FORM  
METERS IN SERVICE AT OTTER TAIL POWER CO.**

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Attachment 1  
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REFERENCE - TABLES A-2, B-3, B-4, B-5, AND EXAMPLE B-3 OF MIL-STD-414.

TYPE OF METERS IN THIS SAMPLE: 2008 Sample #3

LOT SIZE \_\_\_\_\_ SAMPLE SIZE 80 AQL 2.5

FL BAR X 99.812  
LL BAR X 99.746

FL SIGMA 0.376  
LL SIGMA 0.708

ESTIMATE OF LOT ABOVE 102.0%

$$FL\ QU = \frac{102 - FL\ BAR\ X}{FL\ SIGMA} = \frac{102 - 99.812}{0.376} = \frac{2.188}{0.376} = \underline{5.82}$$

$$LL\ QU = \frac{102 - LL\ BAR\ X}{LL\ SIGMA} = \frac{102 - 99.746}{0.708} = \frac{2.254}{0.708} = \underline{3.18}$$

From Table B-5 = 0 % PU FL above 102.0%

0.056 % PU LL above 102.0 %

ESTIMATE OF LOT BELOW 98.0%

$$FL\ QL = \frac{FL\ BAR\ X - 98}{FL\ SIGMA} = \frac{99.812 - 98}{0.376} = \frac{1.812}{0.376} = \underline{4.82}$$

$$LL\ QL = \frac{LL\ BAR\ X - 98}{LL\ SIGMA} = \frac{99.746 - 98}{0.708} = \frac{1.746}{0.708} = \underline{2.47}$$

From table B-5 = 0 % PL FL below 98.0 %

0.615 % PL LL below 98.0%

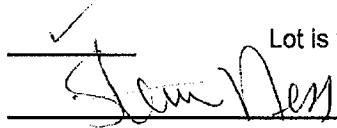
TOTAL PERCENT DEFECTIVE

Full Load P = PU FL + PL FL      0 + 0 = 0.000

Light Load P = PU LL + PL LL      0.056 + 0.615 = 0.671

ALLOWABLE PERCENT DEFECTIVE 4.87  
TABLE B - 3

Lot is acceptable  Lot is unacceptable

Signature: 

**OTTER TAIL POWER CO.**  
**SAMPLE METER TEST CALCULATION FORM**  
**METERS IN SERVICE AT OTTER TAIL POWER CO.**  
 REFERENCE - TABLES A-2, B-3, B-4, B-5, AND EXAMPLE B-3 OF MIL-STD-414.

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 Attachment 1  
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TYPE OF METERS IN THIS SAMPLE: 2008 Sample #4

LOT SIZE \_\_\_\_\_ SAMPLE SIZE 89 AQL 2.5

FL BAR X 99.920 FL SIGMA 0.334  
 LL BAR X 99.461 LL SIGMA 0.813

ESTIMATE OF LOT ABOVE 102.0%

$$FL\ QU = \frac{102 - FL\ BAR\ X}{FL\ SIGMA} = \frac{102 - 99.92}{0.334} = \frac{2.080}{0.334} = \underline{6.23}$$

$$LL\ QU = \frac{102 - LL\ BAR\ X}{LL\ SIGMA} = \frac{102 - 99.461}{0.813} = \frac{2.539}{0.813} = \underline{3.12}$$

From Table B-5 = 0 % PU FL above 102.0%

0.07 % PU LL above 102.0 %

ESTIMATE OF LOT BELOW 98.0%

$$FL\ QL = \frac{FL\ BAR\ X - 98}{FL\ SIGMA} = \frac{99.92 - 98}{0.334} = \frac{1.920}{0.334} = \underline{5.75}$$

$$LL\ QL = \frac{LL\ BAR\ X - 98}{LL\ SIGMA} = \frac{99.461 - 98}{0.813} = \frac{1.461}{0.813} = \underline{1.80}$$

From table B-5 = 0 % PL FL below 98.0 %

3.51 % PL LL below 98.0%

TOTAL PERCENT DEFECTIVE

Full Load P = PU FL + PL FL 0 + 0 = 0.000

Light Load P = PU LL + PL LL 0.07 + 3.51 = 3.580

ALLOWABLE PERCENT DEFECTIVE: TABLE B-3 4.69

OUTLIERS

UFL = BAR X + (4 x FL Sigma) 99.920 + 1.336 UFL = 101.256

LFL = BAR X - (4 x FL Sigma) 99.920 - 1.336 LFL = 98.584

UFL = BAR X + (4 x LL Sigma) 99.461 + 3.252 ULL = 102.713

LLL = BAR X - (4 x LL Sigma) 99.461 - 3.252 LLL = 96.209

Lot is acceptable  Lot is unacceptable

Signature: *Sam Nery*

**OTTER TAIL POWER CO.  
SAMPLE METER TEST CALCULATION FORM  
METERS IN SERVICE AT OTTER TAIL POWER CO.**

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Attachment 1  
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REFERENCE - TABLES A-2, B-3, B-4, B-5, AND EXAMPLE B-3 OF MIL-STD-414.

TYPE OF METERS IN THIS SAMPLE: 2008 Sample #5

LOT SIZE \_\_\_\_\_ SAMPLE SIZE 91 AQL 2.5  
 FL BAR X 99.948 FL SIGMA 0.595  
 LL BAR X 99.743 LL SIGMA 0.776

ESTIMATE OF LOT ABOVE 102.0%

$$FL\ QU = \frac{102 - FL\ BAR\ X}{FL\ SIGMA} = \frac{102 - 99.948}{0.595} = \frac{2.052}{0.595} = 3.45$$

$$LL\ QU = \frac{102 - LL\ BAR\ X}{LL\ SIGMA} = \frac{102 - 99.743}{0.776} = \frac{2.257}{0.776} = 2.91$$

From Table B-5 = 0.019 % PU FL above 102.0%

0.15 % PU LL above 102.0 %

ESTIMATE OF LOT BELOW 98.0%

$$FL\ QL = \frac{FL\ BAR\ X - 98}{FL\ SIGMA} = \frac{99.948 - 98}{0.595} = \frac{1.948}{0.595} = 3.27$$

$$LL\ QL = \frac{LL\ BAR\ X - 98}{LL\ SIGMA} = \frac{99.743 - 98}{0.776} = \frac{1.743}{0.776} = 2.25$$

From table B-5 = 0.04 % PL FL below 98.0 %

1.148 % PL LL below 98.0%

TOTAL PERCENT DEFECTIVE

Full Load P = PU FL + PL FL 0.019 + 0.04 = 0.059

Light Load P = PU LL + PL LL 0.15 + 1.148 = 1.298

ALLOWABLE PERCENT DEFECTIVE 4.69  
TABLE B - 3

Lot is acceptable  Lot is unacceptable

Signature: John New

**OTTER TAIL POWER CO.**  
**SAMPLE METER TEST CALCULATION FORM**  
**METERS IN SERVICE AT OTTER TAIL POWER CO.**  
 REFERENCE - TABLES A-2, B-3, B-4, B-5, AND EXAMPLE B-3 OF MIL-STD-414.

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 Attachment 1  
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TYPE OF METERS IN THIS SAMPLE: 2008 Sample #6

LOT SIZE _____	SAMPLE SIZE <u>89</u>	AQL <u>2.5</u>
<u>FL BAR X</u> <u>99.919</u>	<u>FL SIGMA</u> <u>0.265</u>	
<u>LL BAR X</u> <u>99.597</u>	<u>LL SIGMA</u> <u>0.753</u>	

ESTIMATE OF LOT ABOVE 102.0%

$$FL\ QU = \frac{102 - FL\ BAR\ X}{FL\ SIGMA} = \frac{102 - 99.919}{0.265} = \frac{2.081}{0.265} = \underline{7.85}$$

$$LL\ QU = \frac{102 - LL\ BAR\ X}{LL\ SIGMA} = \frac{102 - 99.597}{0.753} = \frac{2.403}{0.753} = \underline{3.19}$$

From Table B-5 = 0 % PU FL above 102.0%  
0.054 % PU LL above 102.0 %

ESTIMATE OF LOT BELOW 98.0%

$$FL\ QL = \frac{FL\ BAR\ X - 98}{FL\ SIGMA} = \frac{99.919 - 98}{0.265} = \frac{1.919}{0.265} = \underline{7.24}$$

$$LL\ QL = \frac{LL\ BAR\ X - 98}{LL\ SIGMA} = \frac{99.597 - 98}{0.753} = \frac{1.597}{0.753} = \underline{2.12}$$

From table B-5 = 0 % PL FL below 98.0 %  
1.62 % PL LL below 98.0%

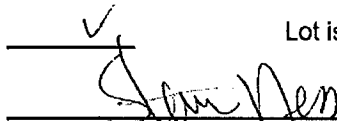
TOTAL PERCENT DEFECTIVE

Full Load P = PU FL + PL FL	<u>0</u>	+	<u>0</u>	=	<u>0.000</u>
Light Load P = PU LL + PL LL	<u>0.054</u>	+	<u>1.62</u>	=	<u>1.674</u>
ALLOWABLE PERCENT DEFECTIVE: TABLE B-3					<u>4.69</u>

OUTLIERS

UFL = $BAR\ X + (4 \times FL\ Sigma)$	$99.919 + 1.06$	UFL =	<u>100.979</u>
LFL = $BAR\ X - (4 \times FL\ Sigma)$	$99.919 - 1.06$	LFL =	<u>98.859</u>
UFL = $BAR\ X + (4 \times LL\ Sigma)$	$99.597 + 3.012$	ULL =	<u>102.609</u>
LLL = $BAR\ X - (4 \times LL\ Sigma)$	$99.597 - 3.012$	LLL =	<u>96.585</u>

Lot is acceptable  Lot is unacceptable

Signature: 

**SAMPLE METER TEST CALCULATION FORM**

**METERS IN SERVICE AT OTTER TAIL POWER CO.**

REFERENCE - TABLES A-2, B-3, B-4, B-5, AND EXAMPLE B-3 OF MIL-STD-414.

TYPE OF METERS IN THIS SAMPLE: 2008 Sample #7

LOT SIZE \_\_\_\_\_ SAMPLE SIZE 73 AQL 2.5

FL BAR X 99.856 FL SIGMA 0.258  
LL BAR X 99.178 LL SIGMA 1.143

ESTIMATE OF LOT ABOVE 102.0%

$$FL\ QU = \frac{102 - FL\ BAR\ X}{FL\ SIGMA} = \frac{102 - 99.856}{0.258} = \frac{2.144}{0.258} = \underline{8.31}$$

$$LL\ QU = \frac{102 - LL\ BAR\ X}{LL\ SIGMA} = \frac{102 - 99.178}{1.143} = \frac{2.822}{1.143} = \underline{2.47}$$

From Table B-5 = 0 % PU FL above 102.0%

0.615 % PU LL above 102.0 %

ESTIMATE OF LOT BELOW 98.0%

$$FL\ QL = \frac{FL\ BAR\ X - 98}{FL\ SIGMA} = \frac{99.856 - 98}{0.258} = \frac{1.856}{0.258} = \underline{7.19}$$

$$LL\ QL = \frac{LL\ BAR\ X - 98}{LL\ SIGMA} = \frac{99.178 - 98}{1.143} = \frac{1.178}{1.143} = \underline{1.03}$$

From table B-5 = 0 % PL FL below 98.0 %

15.15 % PL LL below 98.0%

TOTAL PERCENT DEFECTIVE

Full Load P = PU FL + PL FL 0 + 0 = 0.000

Light Load P = PU LL + PL LL 0.615 + 15.15 = 15.765

ALLOWABLE PERCENT DEFECTIVE: TABLE B-3 4.87

OUTLIERS

UFL = BAR X + (4 x FL Sigma) 99.856 + 1.032 UFL = 100.888

LFL = BAR X - (4 x FL Sigma) 99.856 - 1.032 LFL = 98.824

UFL = BAR X + (4 x LL Sigma) 99.178 + 4.572 ULL = 103.75

LLL = BAR X - (4 x LL Sigma) 99.178 - 4.572 LLL = 94.606

Lot is acceptable \_\_\_\_\_ Lot is unacceptable ✓

Signature: *[Handwritten Signature]*

**SAMPLE METER TEST CALCULATION FORM**

**METERS IN SERVICE AT OTTER TAIL POWER CO.**

REFERENCE - TABLES A-2, B-3, B-4, B-5, AND EXAMPLE B-3 OF MIL-STD-414.

TYPE OF METERS IN THIS SAMPLE: 2008 Sample #8

LOT SIZE \_\_\_\_\_ SAMPLE SIZE 83 AQL 2.5

FL BAR X 99.789 FL SIGMA 0.234  
LL BAR X 99.125 LL SIGMA 0.625

ESTIMATE OF LOT ABOVE 102.0%

$$FL\ QU = \frac{102 - FL\ BAR\ X}{FL\ SIGMA} = \frac{102 - 99.789}{0.234} = \frac{2.211}{0.234} = 9.45$$

$$LL\ QU = \frac{102 - LL\ BAR\ X}{LL\ SIGMA} = \frac{102 - 99.125}{0.625} = \frac{2.875}{0.625} = 4.60$$

From Table B-5 = 0 % PU FL above 102.0%

0 % PU LL above 102.0 %

ESTIMATE OF LOT BELOW 98.0%

$$FL\ QL = \frac{FL\ BAR\ X - 98}{FL\ SIGMA} = \frac{99.789 - 98}{0.234} = \frac{1.789}{0.234} = 7.65$$

$$LL\ QL = \frac{LL\ BAR\ X - 98}{LL\ SIGMA} = \frac{99.125 - 98}{0.625} = \frac{1.125}{0.625} = 1.80$$

From table B-5 = 0 % PL FL below 98.0 %

3.51 % PL LL below 98.0%

TOTAL PERCENT DEFECTIVE

Full Load P = PU FL + PL FL 0 + 0 = 0.000

Light Load P = PU LL + PL LL 0 + 3.51 = 3.510

ALLOWABLE PERCENT DEFECTIVE: TABLE B-3 4.69

OUTLIERS

UFL = BAR X + (4 x FL Sigma) 99.789 + 0.936 UFL = 100.725

LFL = BAR X - (4 x FL Sigma) 99.789 - 0.936 LFL = 98.853

UFL = BAR X + (4 x LL Sigma) 99.125 + 2.5 ULL = 101.625

LLL = BAR X - (4 x LL Sigma) 99.125 - 2.5 LLL = 96.625

Lot is acceptable ✓ Lot is unacceptable \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: Steve Men

**OTTER TAIL POWER CO.  
SAMPLE METER TEST CALCULATION FORM  
METERS IN SERVICE AT OTTER TAIL POWER CO.**

12/30/2008

Attachment 1  
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REFERENCE - TABLES A-2, B-3, B-4, B-5, AND EXAMPLE B-3 OF MIL-STD-414.

TYPE OF METERS IN THIS SAMPLE: 2008 Sample #9

LOT SIZE \_\_\_\_\_ SAMPLE SIZE 91 AQL 2.5

FL BAR X 100.065  
LL BAR X 99.996

FL SIGMA 0.295  
LL SIGMA 0.589

ESTIMATE OF LOT ABOVE 102.0%

$$FL\ QU = \frac{102 - FL\ BAR\ X}{FL\ SIGMA} = \frac{102 - 100.065}{0.295} = \frac{1.935}{0.295} = \underline{6.56}$$

$$LL\ QU = \frac{102 - LL\ BAR\ X}{LL\ SIGMA} = \frac{102 - 99.996}{0.589} = \frac{2.004}{0.589} = \underline{3.40}$$

From Table B-5 = 0 % PU FL above 102.0%

0.023 % PU LL above 102.0 %

ESTIMATE OF LOT BELOW 98.0%

$$FL\ QL = \frac{FL\ BAR\ X - 98}{FL\ SIGMA} = \frac{100.065 - 98}{0.295} = \frac{2.065}{0.295} = \underline{7.00}$$

$$LL\ QL = \frac{LL\ BAR\ X - 98}{LL\ SIGMA} = \frac{99.996 - 98}{0.589} = \frac{1.996}{0.589} = \underline{3.39}$$

From table B-5 = 0 % PL FL below 98.0 %

0.024 % PL LL below 98.0%

TOTAL PERCENT DEFECTIVE

Full Load P = PU FL + PL FL      0      +      0      =      0.000

Light Load P = PU LL + PL LL      0.023      +      0.024      =      0.047

ALLOWABLE PERCENT DEFECTIVE 4.69  
TABLE B - 3

Lot is acceptable  Lot is unacceptable

Signature: 