

Memorandum

To: Commissioners Christmann, Haugen-Hoffart, and Fedorchak

From: Adam Renfandt 

Date: December 2, 2024

Subject: Otter Tail Power Company, 49.5 MW Luverne Wind Farm (Ashtabula II) – Griggs, PU-18-343; Otter Tail Power Company, 40.5 MW Langdon Wind - Cavalier Cty., PU-09-244; Otter Tail Power Company, 48 MW Ashtabula Wind - Barnes Cty, PU-09-245

On November 21, 2024, Otter Tail Power Company (OTP) filed updated costs and financial assurances for Luverne Wind Energy Center (Luverne), Langdon Wind Energy Center (Langdon), and Ashtabula Wind Energy Center (Ashtabula). Luverne has a nameplate capacity of 49.5 MW and consists of 33 turbines. Langdon has a nameplate capacity of 40.5 MW and consists of 27 turbines. Finally, Ashtabula has a nameplate capacity of 48 MW and consists of 32 turbines. The method of decommissioning remains the same in that the plan calls for the use of a crane and reverse disassembly.

The decommissioning cost estimate for each wind facility increased from \$222,000 per wind turbine generator to approximately \$288,480 with Luverne's estimate slightly higher at \$290,935 to account for the substation removal costs that the other two facilities do not incur. This represents a 30% increase since 2019 when the prior decommissioning cost estimates were developed.

Also provided are updated self-guaranties to ensure that decommissioning takes place per Commission rules for the full amount of decommissioning costs without salvage offsets.

Having reviewed the updated decommissioning plans, cost estimates, and self-guaranties, Staff recommends approval as they comply with Commission rules.

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