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September 23, 2009

**Reply to Fergus Falls office
Direct: 218-998-7152**

VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL

Mr. Darrell Nitschke
Director of Administration/Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E Boulevard Ave., Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Re: Otter Tail Power Company Hankinson-Ellendale 230 kV Transmission Line

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Pursuant to NDCC § 49-22-07.1 and NDAC chapter 69-06-03, Otter Tail Power Company hereby submits this letter of intent to reroute a portion of its Hankinson-Ellendale 230 kilovolt transmission line in Sargent County. The Commission is requested to waive the requirement in NDAC § 69-06-03-01 that the letter of intent precede, by one year, the filing of an application for a certificate of corridor compatibility.

It is anticipated that the proposed reroute may justify findings that the "length, design, location, or purpose ... will produce minimal adverse effects" and "that a demonstrable emergency exists which requires immediate construction and that adherence to the procedures and time schedules would jeopardize the utility's system" under NDCC § 49-22-07.2. Consequently, Otter Tail may submit a request for a Waiver of Procedures and Time Schedules under NDAC chapter 69-06-06.

In accordance with NDAC § 69-06-03-02, the following information is provided in support of this letter of intent:

1. The Hankinson-Ellendale 230 kV transmission line is approximately 83.8 miles in length. The transmission facility is an integral component of the 230 kV transmission system, integrating baseload electric generation at the Big Stone Plant in eastern South Dakota and the Hoot Lake Plant in western Minnesota, and wind generation in southeastern North Dakota; and serving retail load in southeastern North Dakota, northeastern South Dakota, and western Minnesota. Otter Tail is proposing to reroute only a 0.53 mile portion near Fiala Lake in Sargent County, west and south of Forman in Section 14, Township 130 North (Forman), Range 56 West. The portion to be rerouted consists of K-framed wood structures, which would likely be replaced by H-framed wood or steel structures.

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2. A map of the study area for the proposed corridor is attached.
3. The anticipated construction and operation schedule is February-May of 2010, dates chosen to forestall a high probability of line outage due to ice floe in the spring.
4. The estimated total cost of construction is \$260,000.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Mark B. Bring
Associate General Counsel
MBB:nlo

Attachment



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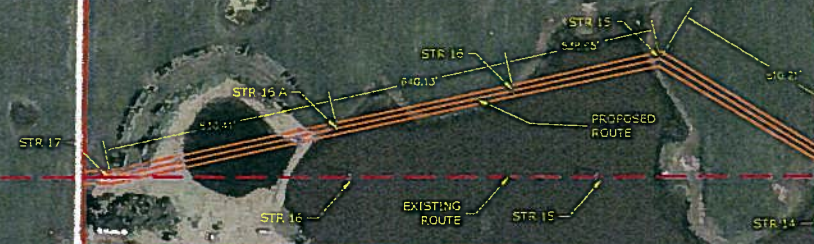
ONE MILE CORRIDOR

DAVID J. FIALA

DORIS ARMISTEAD

FIALA LAKE

North Dakota



WEST QUARTER CORNER
SECTION 14 TOWN SHIP 130 RANGE 56

CENTER SECTION 14
TOWN SHIP 130 RANGE 56

