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October 3, 2011

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**VIA E-MAIL AND U.S. MAIL**

Al Wahl  
Administrative Law Judge  
Office of Administrative Hearings  
State of North Dakota  
2911 North 14th Street  
Suite 303  
Bismarck, ND 58503

**Re: Otter Tail Power Company  
Advanced Determination of Prudence -  
CapX2020 Group 1 Application  
Case No. PU-09-676**

**Northern States Power Company  
Advanced Determination of Prudence -  
CapX2020 Group 1 Application  
Case No. PU-09-678**

**OAH File No. 20110342**

Dear Judge Wahl:

As you may be aware, the North Dakota Public Service Commission has issued a Notice of Hearing on the settlement agreement reached between the Applicants and Advocacy Staff relating to the continued prudence of the Brookings Project. The hearing is scheduled for October 26, 2011 at 1:30 pm at the Commission hearing room.

Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation, and Otter Tail Power Company, Applicants in the above referenced matter, respectfully request a pre-hearing conference with you and the parties to discuss the conduct of the hearing. Given the highly technical nature of the settlement agreement, Applicants think it prudent to establish hearing procedures that will ensure proper foundation for the settlement agreement and allow the appropriate technical or legal experts to address any questions or concerns that the Commissioners may have. Applicants can be available at the convenience of the parties.

Briggs and Morgan, Professional Association  
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Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

BRIGGS AND MORGAN, P.A.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'ZS', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Zeviel Simpser

Counsel for Northern States Power Company  
and Otter Tail Power

ZS/ts

cc: Matt Loftus  
Jennifer Smestad  
Illona Jeffcoat-Sacco  
Mitch Armstrong  
Matt Dorsett