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December 5, 2011

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DEC 05 2011

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Ms. Illona A. Jeffcoat-Sacco, General Counsel
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Re: Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., Case No. PU-11-163 and
Otter Tail Power Company, Case No. PU-11-165
Applications for Advance Determination of Prudence
Big Stone Air Quality Control System Project
OAH File No. 2011-0276

Dear Ms. Jeffcoat-Sacco:

The consolidated hearing for the captioned cases was completed November 29, 2011, in accordance with the notice of hearing. I have returned to the Commission the documents filed with me for the hearing, and the exhibits received at the hearing were taken by the court reporter for the preparation of a transcript of the proceedings to be filed with the Commission.

There does not appear to be any requirement for a hearing officer for the further proceedings to be had for the disposition of the cases. Accordingly, I have closed the files of the Office of Administrative Hearings for the cases.

The Office of Administrative Hearings was pleased to assist the Public Service Commission and the parties for the cases.

Sincerely,



Al. Wahl
Administrative Law Judge