

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**

MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO. / )  
OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY )  
345 kV TRANSMISSION LINE - DICKEY ) **Case No. PU-13-840**  
COUNTY SITING APPLICATION )

**AFFIDAVIT OF BRIAN HUNKER**

STATE OF MINNESOTA )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN )

Brian Hunker, being first duly sworn upon oath, states and alleges as follows:

1. I am employed by HDR Engineering, Inc. (HDR), which has been retained by Otter Tail Power Company and Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (jointly, the Applicants), as the environmental consulting firm for the Big Stone South to Ellendale 345-kV Transmission Line Project (Project), which is the subject of the above-captioned action.

2. I am the Environmental Consulting Assistant Project Manager for the Project. In that role, I manage the environmental technical staff that conducts environmental field surveys, oversee the preparation of environmental reports and permit applications, and assist with agency consultations.

3. The Applicants are proposing a corridor and route modification in the SE/4 of Section 9, Township 129 North, Range 63 West and SW/4 of Section 10, Township 129 North, Range 63 West, in Dickey County, North Dakota, to accommodate the landowner's route alignment adjustment request.

4. The Applicants are proposing a corridor modification between Structure 43 (in North Dakota) and the North Dakota-South Dakota state border to accommodate a route shift in South Dakota.

5. All of the transmission line structures will be shifted slightly from the locations filed in the Application.

6. HDR, on behalf of the Applicants, has completed a Class III Intensive Archaeological and Traditional Cultural Property Resources Inventory and a Class III Cultural Resource Inventory: History Structures Inventory and Evaluation with Addendum 1 (memo) of the proposed corridor and route modifications, and no cultural resources were identified during the surveys. A copy of the two Class III Cultural Resource Inventory Reports and Addendum 1 (memo) is included with this filing. Copies of the State Historical Society of North Dakota, State Historic Preservation Office's concurrence letters are also attached.

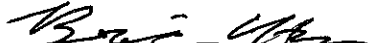
7. The Applicants have considered the exclusion area, avoidance area, selection, and policy criteria set forth in Sections 69-06-08-02(1)-(4) of the North Dakota Administrative Code when selecting the proposed corridor and route modifications. An analysis of those criteria, as they relate to the proposed corridor and route modifications, is provided in Tables 2-5 in the attached Consolidated Application for An Amended Certificate of Corridor Compatibility and Route Permit.

8. No exclusion areas, as set forth in Section 69-06-08-02(1) of the North Dakota Administrative Code, are located within the proposed corridor and route modifications. *See also* the attached Consolidated Application for An Amended Certificate of Corridor Compatibility and Route Permit.


9. With the exception of rural water pipelines, which may be present but are not anticipated to be impacted, no avoidance areas are located within the proposed corridor and route modifications. *See also* the attached Consolidated Application for An Amended Certificate of Corridor Compatibility and Route Permit.

10. Clearing the Project right-of-way during the fall and winter of 2015-2016, outside of avian breeding and nesting seasons, will enable the Applicants to minimize or avoid potential impacts to avian species.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

 9/28/15  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Hunker

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this 28 day of September, 2015.

  
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Notary Public

