

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. / Otter Tail Power Company
345 kV Transmission Line – Dickey County
Siting Application**

Case No. PU-13-840

SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER

November 29, 2017

On July 10, 2014, the Commission issued Corridor Certificate No. 154 and Route Permit No. 166 to Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc. and Otter Tail Power Company (Applicants) authorizing approximately 11 miles of 345 kV electric transmission line and associated facilities from a new Ellendale 345 kV substation to the South Dakota Border in Dickey County. This is the North Dakota portion of an Ellendale to Big Stone project.

On December 16, 2015, the Commission issued First Amended Certificate of Corridor Compatibility No. 154 and First Amended Route Permit No. 166 to Applicants authorizing minor corridor and route modifications in sections 9 & 10 of Ellendale Township T129N, R63W and in Section 32 of Van Meter Township T129N, R62W.

On June 6, 2017 and September 6, 2017, Applicants filed consolidated applications for second amended corridor certificate and route permit, requesting minor corridor and route modifications from transmission line structures 29 to 32 in section 20 of Van Meter Township.

On October 4, 2017, the Commission found the consolidated amendment applications complete and issued a Notice of Filing and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing, which provided until November 10, 2017 for receiving written comments and hearing requests. No hearing requests were received. The notice identified the following issues to be considered in this matter:

1. Will the location, construction, and operation of the proposed facilities produce minimal adverse effects on the environment and upon the welfare of the citizens of North Dakota?
2. Are the proposed facilities compatible with the environmental preservation and the efficient use of resources?
3. Will the proposed facility locations minimize adverse human and environmental impact while ensuring continuing system reliability and integrity and ensuring that energy needs are met and fulfilled in an orderly and timely fashion?

On October 30, 2017, the North Dakota Department of Health comments stating that it believes environmental impacts from the proposed construction will be minor and can be controlled by proper construction methods.

On November 8, 2017, the North Dakota State Water Commission filed comments that initial review indicates the project does not require permits relative to the National Flood Insurance Program or a conditional or temporary permit for water appropriation.

Applicants report that proximity to an existing 115 kV transmission line poses safety hazards during construction, resulting in a need for corridor and route modifications necessary to shift structure #30 about 150 feet west and Structure #31 approximately 80 feet

to the southwest. No new landowners are involved and the landowner whose land the shifts occur on has given approval. No exclusion or avoidance areas have been identified within the proposed corridor and route modifications.

The location, construction, and operation of the proposed facilities will produce minimal adverse effects on the environment and upon the welfare of the citizens of North Dakota.

The proposed facilities are compatible with the environmental preservation and the efficient use of resources.

The proposed facility locations minimize adverse human and environmental impact while ensuring continuing system reliability and integrity and ensuring that energy needs are met and fulfilled in an orderly and timely fashion.

The proposed project is of such design, location, and purpose that it will produce minimal adverse effects.


Order

The Commission Orders Second Amended Certificate of Corridor Compatibility No. 154 and Second Amended Route Permit No. 166 are issued to Applicants authorizing the proposed route and corridor modifications.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Brian Kroshus
Commissioner



Randy Christmann
Chairman



Julie Fedorchak
Commissioner

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

Second Amended Certificate of Corridor Compatibility Number 154

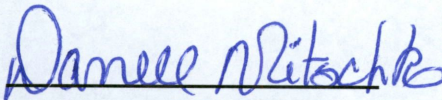
This is to certify that the Commission has designated a transmission facility corridor for Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc. and Otter Tail Power Company for a 345 kV electric transmission line and associate facilities extending approximately nine miles from a new Ellendale 345 kV substation to the South Dakota Border.

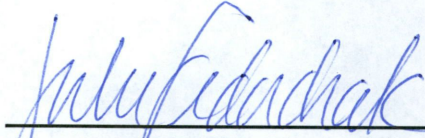
This certificate is issued in accordance with the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order of this Commission dated July 10, 2014, and the Supplemental Orders dated December 16, 2015 and November 29, 2017 in Case No. PU-13-840 and is subject to the conditions and limitations noted in those Orders.

Bismarck, North Dakota, November 29, 2017.

ATTEST:

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Executive Secretary


Commissioner

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**

Second Amended Route Permit Number 166

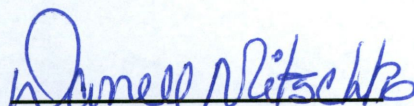
This is to certify that the Commission has designated a transmission facility route for Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc. and Otter Tail Power Company for a 345 kV electric transmission line and associate facilities extending approximately nine miles from a new Ellendale 345 kV substation to the South Dakota.

This permit is issued in accordance with the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order of this Commission dated July 10, 2014, and the Supplemental Orders dated December 16, 2015 and November 29, 2017 in Case No. PU-13-840 and is subject to the conditions and limitations noted in those Orders.

Bismarck, North Dakota, November 29, 2017.

ATTEST:

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


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