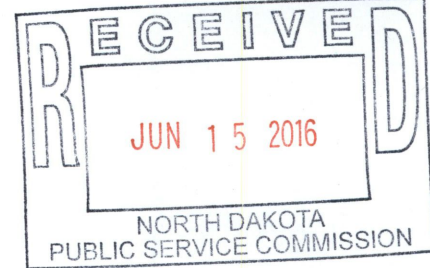


215 South Cascade Street  
PO Box 496  
Fergus Falls, Minnesota 56538-0496  
218 739-8200  
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June 15, 2016

Mr. Darrell Nitschke  
Director of Administration/Executive Secretary  
North Dakota Public Service Commission  
State Capitol  
600 East Boulevard, Dept. 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0408



**RE: IN THE MATTER OF OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY'S SUBMITTAL OF ITS  
2017-2031 RESOURCE PLAN**

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Enclosed are an original and seven (7) copies of Otter Tail Power Company's ("Otter Tail's") Resource Plan. The plan, in public and trade secret versions, and cover letter are being sent to you by electronic mail as well as overnight delivery.

Also enclosed are an original and seven copies of Otter Tail's Application for Trade Secret Protection.

If you have any questions regarding these documents, please contact Brian Draxten at 218 739-8417 [bhdraxten@otpc.com](mailto:bhdraxten@otpc.com) or me at 218 739-8475 ([bgerhardson@otpc.com](mailto:bgerhardson@otpc.com)).

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bruce Gerhardson'.

Bruce Gerhardson  
Associate General Counsel

nlo  
Enclosures  
By electronic filing and overnight delivery

2 **PU-16-308** Filed: 6/15/2016 Pages: 2  
**Application for Trade Secret Protection**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF OTTER TAIL  
POWER COMPANY'S SUBMITTAL OF  
ITS 2017-2031 RESOURCE PLAN

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICATION FOR TRADE SECRET PROTECTION

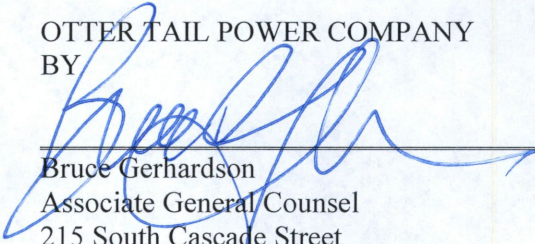
COMES NOW, Otter Tail Power Company ("Otter Tail") and respectfully moves the Commission for entry of a trade secret protective order under §69-02-09-01 of the North Dakota Administrative Code. The purpose of the requested protective order is to protect against public disclosure of trade secret information as defined by NDCC §47-25.1-01(4).

The specific information which needs protection at this time is the confidential portions of its 2017-2031 Resource Plan.

Otter Tail requests that trade secret protection be given to the above information. Such information is not publicly available, and is not only treated as confidential business information, but information which cannot be selectively disclosed without violating the public reporting requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Otter Tail believes that disclosure of the information would be of independent economic value to competitors and would create a competitive disadvantage for Otter Tail if publicly disclosed to others because of the competitive nature of the electric market and the market for electric generating resources. In accordance with §69-02-09-02 of the North Dakota Administrative Code, one copy of the trade secret material is provided in the enclosed sealed envelope which is labeled **TRADE SECRET-PRIVATE**.

Respectfully submitted June 15, 2016.

OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY  
BY



\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce Gerhardson  
Associate General Counsel  
215 South Cascade Street  
Fergus Falls, MN 56537  
(218) 739-8475