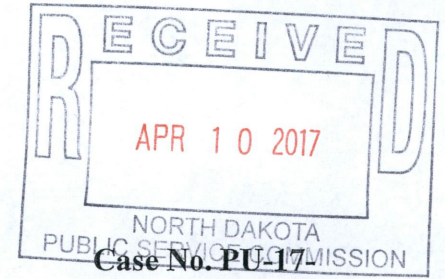


STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



**Otter Tail Power Company
Advance Prudence – Astoria Gas
Application**

APPLICATION FOR TRADE SECRET PROTECTION

Pursuant to N.D. Admin. Code §§ 69-02-09-01 and 69-02-09-04, Otter Tail Power Company (Otter Tail) respectfully requests that the Commission issue a trade secret protective order in the above-referenced case. The purpose of the requested protective order is to protect against public disclosure of trade secret or proprietary information, as defined by N.D. Cent. Code §§ 47-25.1-01(4) and 44-04-18.4.

Otter Tail seeks trade secret protection for breakdowns of the projected costs of the Astoria Project contained in the Application and supporting testimony filed in the above referenced Case. This information has been marked as TRADE SECRET in the Application and supporting testimony.

The above-referenced information is either not publicly available, is confidential business information, or was prepared specifically for Otter Tail with data inputs unique to Otter Tail. The confidentiality of this information has been maintained by Otter Tail. The information, therefore, is not readily ascertainable by proper means by other persons.

Vendors and competitors would have an opportunity to obtain economic value from disclosure or use of the information, to the detriment of Otter Tail and the customers we serve. If publicly available, vendors could use the information to their advantage in competing for project procurement opportunities, while competitors could use the information to leverage their rate positions in the marketplace to Otter Tail's detriment.

In accordance with N.D. Admin. Code § 69-02-09-02, one copy of the trade secret material is provided in the enclosed sealed envelope labeled PROTECTED INFORMATION – PRIVATE.

In addition, the Company requests that the trade secret protective order be broad enough to cover all additional information exchanged in the course of this proceeding and qualifying for trade secret protection.

Respectfully submitted this 10th day of April, 2017.

OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY

By  _____

Cary Stephenson
Associate General Counsel
Otter Tail Power Company
215 S. Cascade Street
Fergus Falls, MN 56538-0496
(218) 739-8200
cstephenson@otpc.com