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July 15, 2021

Steve Kahl
Director of Administration/Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
State Capitol
600 East Boulevard Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505

**RE: Otter Tail Power Company's Application for Astoria Natural Gas Project
Case No. PU-17-140
Quarterly Report - Compliance Filing**

Dear Mr. Kahl:

On November 3, 2017, the Commission issued an Order on Settlement and approved a Settlement Agreement between Otter Tail and Advocacy Staff in the above-described case. The Settlement Agreement required Otter Tail to "provide the Commission quarterly construction progress reports on the Astoria Project until the project is in service."

Enclosed is Otter Tail's report for the quarter ending June 30, 2021. Because the project was placed in service this quarter, this will be the final report to be filed in the docket.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact me at (605) 924-0767 or at kphinney@otpc.com.

Sincerely,

/s/ *KIRK PHINNEY*
Kirk Phinney
Manager, Supply Engineering

tlk
Enclosures
By electronic filing

**ASTORIA NATURAL GAS PROJECT
QUARTERLY CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS REPORT**

TO THE

NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

FOR THE

PERIOD APRIL 1 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021

July 15, 2021

Astoria Natural Gas Project Quarterly Construction Progress Report

Otter Tail Power Company (OTP) submits this report on the Astoria Natural Gas Project in compliance with the Commission's November 3, 2017 Order on Settlement in Case Number PU-17-140, which requires OTP to provide the Commission quarterly construction progress reports on the Astoria Natural Gas Project until the project is in service. This report concerns project activities through June 30, 2021. Since the Astoria Natural Gas Project was placed into service this quarter, this report will also be the final report per the Order on Settlement.

Project activities for the second quarter included formal performance testing, commercial operation, and project closeout activities.

Formal performance testing was conducted the week of April 5. Following testing, an outage was taken to address several punch list items prior to releasing the Unit for commercial operation. The system operator first called on the Unit to operate on April 30, 2021, and the Unit has been dispatched on regular basis since.

The general work contractor remained onsite for the quarter, completing base-scope work such as final grading, seeding, asphaltting, and cleaning. At the end of the quarter, the general work contractor had a minimal amount of work remaining - - including a few punch list items that will require a coordinated outage to complete.

Remaining project activities pertain to punch list and warranty items for the combustion turbine OEM and administrative closeout activities. Some of these activities will carry well into 2021, which is typical for a large project. Overall, the project was completed one month before the Unit was needed as a generation resource. Given the remaining activities, the project's costs will also be well below original budget.



Astoria Station Aerial Photo

6/25/2021