

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Otter Tail Power Company
2017 Electric Rate Increase
Application**

Case No. PU-17-398

ORDER AMENDING ORDER ON SETTLEMENT

March 13, 2019

Preliminary Statement

On November 2, 2017, Otter Tail Power Company (OTP) filed an Application for Authority to Increase Electric Rates in North Dakota.

On September 26, 2018, the Commission issued an Order on Settlement approving a rate increase for OTP effective for electric service rendered on and after January 1, 2019. The Order also required a refund of the difference between rates approved for January 1, 2019, and interim rates in place from January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2018.

On November 28, 2018 OTP filed its compliance tariff and interim rate refund plan, which was amended to correct typographical and other errors on December 17, 2019.

On December 26, 2018, OTP notified the Commission that OTP cannot implement the approved rates on January 1, 2019, but could implement them on February 1, 2019 in conjunction with implementation of its new Customer Information System (CIS). OTP indicated that the additional period of interim rates will be incorporated into interim rate refunds.

On January 17, 2019, OTP filed its supplemental compliance filing amending its November 28, 2019 compliance tariff and interim rate refund plan to reflect a delayed February 1, 2019 effective date.

On January 23, 2019, The Commission issued a Notice of Intent to Amend Order and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing, which provided until February 26, 2019 for receiving hearing requests. No response was received.

The notice identified the issue to be considered is whether the Order on Settlement should be amended to change or extend the effective date for the approved rates.

On March 8, 2019, Commission Advocacy Staff filed a Response to OTP's Compliance Filing. Advocacy Staff believes it is appropriate to modify the Commission's September 26, 2019 Order to allow new rates to be effective for service rendered on or after February 1, 2019, and recommends the January 17, 2019 supplemental compliance filing be approved.

Discussion

Having considered this matter the Commission finds OTP's request for delay is reasonable and should be approved. Therefore, the Commission issues the following:

Order

The Commission Orders:

1. Ordering paragraph 6 of the Commission's September 26, 2018 Order on Settlement is amended to read:

6. OTP shall file, for Commission approval, an interim rate refund plan and compliance rate schedules consistent with this Order with compliance rates effective for service rendered on and after February 1, 2019.

2. OTP's supplemental compliance tariff and interim rate refund plan filed January 17, 2019 is approved.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Julie Fedorchak
Commissioner


Brian Kroshus
Chairman


Randy Christmann
Commissioner