



Public Service Commission State of North Dakota

COMMISSIONERS

Julie Fedorchak
Randy Christmann
Brian Kroshus

600 East Boulevard Avenue Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480
Web: www.psc.nd.gov
Phone: 701-328-2400
ND Toll Free: 1-877-245-6685
Fax: 701-328-2410
TDD: 800-366-6888 or 711

March 8, 2021

Pete Beithon
Otter Tail Power Company
215 S Cascade St
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

Re: Otter Tail Power Company – Electric – **PU-21-106** - Extreme cold weather event investigation

Pete:

On March 3, 2021, the Commission initiated an Investigation into the impacts and rate treatment for public utility customers related to the extreme weather events of February 5-18, 2021. Please provide a filing to the Commission that informs the following details related to the events.

- 1.1 Please provide forecasted February 2021 electric usage and cost estimates by customer class used to derive the Feb 2021 Fuel and Purchased Power (FCR) rate.
- 1.2 Please provide the actual February 2021 electric usage and cost actuals by customer class.
- 1.3 What is the total North Dakota difference between the forecast and actual electric cost/revenues for February 2021?
- 1.4 What amount of gas was forecasted to be used from storage for power generation during February? What actual amount of gas was used from storage for power generation?
- 1.5 What amount of gas is procured using contract prices versus spot pricing for power generation? Is the contracted percentage the same year to year?
- 1.6 How much of the electric usage during the events was used by customers on an interruptible rate?
- 1.7 How much interruptible customer electric usage was curtailed?
- 1.8 How much interruptible customer electric usage could have been curtailed during the events?

- 1.9 What does your tariff or policy dictate regarding interruptible customers when electric supply is available, but the electric price is extreme?
- 1.10 What mechanism would normally be used to recoup the under collection of electric costs from question 1.3?
- 1.11 What timeframe would the under collection normally be spread over? What return amount does the company earn on the under collected balance?
- 1.12 Are there alternatives to the mechanism and timeframe to recoup the under collected balance that would provide less rate shock to North Dakota ratepayers?

Sincerely,



Victor Schock
Public Utilities Division
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E Boulevard Ave, Dept 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480