The Notice has been organized into the following sections and supporting testimony:

Volume 1	Notice of Change in Rates Alternative Petition for Interim Rates
Volumes 2A, 2B, 2C	Testimony and Schedules Proposed Rates and Tariffs
Volume 3	Supporting Information
Volumes 4A, 4B	Workpapers Lead Lag Study
Volume 5	Budget Documentation

In accordance with N.D.A.C. § 69-02-09-02, an Application to Protect Data and proposed protective order is being provided along with a single copy of the unredacted version of the Notice and supporting testimony and schedules in a sealed box marked **PROTECTED INFORMATION** – **PRIVATE**.

Pursuant to N.D.C.C. § 49-05-04, Otter Tail has enclosed an application fee of \$175,000.00.

If you have any questions regarding this filing, please contact me at Ldonofrio@otpco.com.

Sincerely,

Lauren D. Donofrio

Senior Associate General Counsel – Regulatory

Otter Tail Power Company

cc: Victor Schock

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**Enclosures** 

By electronic filing and personal delivery

# STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Case No. PU-23In the Matter of the Application of
Otter Tail Power Company for Authority
to Increase Rates for Electric Service
in North Dakota

#### **Affidavit of Bruce Gerhardson**

I, the undersigned, being first duly sworn, on oath depose and say the following:

- 1. I am the Vice President of Regulation and Retail Energy Solutions for Otter Tail Power Company (OTP or the Company), the applicant herein;
- 2. I have read the Company's Notice of Change of Rates for Electric Service and the Alternative Petition for Interim Rates, and I believe all the statements therein to be true and correct;
- 3. I have been duly authorized by OTP to submit The Notice of Change of Rates for Electric Service and the Alternative Petition for Interim Rates on behalf of the Company.

Bruce Gerhardson

Subscribed and sworn before me, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of November 2023.

**Notary Public** 

KIMBERLY ANN WARD Notary Public Minnesota My Commission Expires Jan 31, 2027 January 1, 2024. Again, the customer information notice describes the reasons for the interim rate change, the rate impact of the change and would provide information on how to contact the Company or the Commission with questions or comments about the changes.

#### IV. PROPOSED PROCEDURES

Pursuant to N.D.C.C. § 49-05-05, the Company respectfully requests that the Commission allow the proposed rate and tariff changes shown in Volume 2C to be placed into effect December 2, 2023, without suspension or hearing. This Notice of Change in Rates for Electric Service and schedules thereto fully satisfy the requirements for a notice of rate changes effective December 2, 2023, subject to the Commission's authority to thereafter prospectively change such rates and tariffs through a final order under N.D.C.C. § 49-05-06 if the Commission formally investigates the change. The Company has included Direct Testimony in support of this Notice. The Company is receptive to working with Commission Staff to promptly resolve this matter through an information and settlement process.

## V. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the Company provides this Notice to the Commission of new electric rates and tariffs to be effective December 2, 2023, in accordance with N.D.C.C. § 49-05-05 and N.D.A.C. § 69-09-02-01. If the Commission suspends the proposed rates and tariffs within 30 days of this Notice, the Company requests that the Commission issue an order under N.D.C.C. § 49-05-06(2) allowing the Company's proposed interim rates to be effective January 1, 2024, subject to refund. Please direct any questions regarding the Notice of Change in Rates for Electric Service and/or Alternative Petition for Interim Rates to Ms. Jessica Fyhrie at 218-739-8395 or Ms. Lauren Donofrio at 218-739-8774.

Dated: November 2, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,

OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY

Bruce Gerhardson

Vice President Regulation and Retail Energy

Solutions

Otter Tail Power Company 215 South Cascade Street Fergus Falls, MN 56538

218-739-8475

## VIII. CONCLUSION

The Company hereby submits this Alternative Petition for Interim Rates. If the Commission suspends the operation of the general rate schedules listed in the Notice, the Company will implement interim rate relief described in this Alternative Petition for Interim Rates, to be effective January 1, 2024, as provided in N.D.C.C. § 49-05-06(2). Interim revenues would be subject to refund, pending final Commission action on the general rate increase described in the Notice.

Dated: November 2, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,

OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY

Lauren D. Donofrio

Senior Associate General Counsel -

Regulatory

Cary Stephenson

Associate General Counsel Otter Tail Power Company 215 South Cascade Street Fergus Falls, MN 56538

218-739-8200

<u>Ldonofrio@otpco.com</u> <u>cstephenson@otpco.com</u>

## STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Randy Christmann Julie Fedorchak Sheri Haugen-Hoffart Chairman Commissioner Commissioner

In the Matter of the Application of Otter Tail Power Company For Authority to Increase Rates for Electric Utility Service in North Dakota

Case No. PU-23-

**Agreement and Undertaking** 

Otter Tail Power Company (OTP), in conjunction with the Notice and Petition for Interim Rates filed with the North Dakota Public Service Commission (Commission), makes the following unqualified agreement concerning refunding any portion of the requested increase in rates determined by the Commission to be unreasonable.

Pursuant to N.D.C.C. § 49-05-06(4), OTP hereby agrees and undertakes to refund to its customers the amount, if any, collected during the interim rate period, plus reasonable interest at a rate determined by the Commission, computed from the effective date of the interim rates through the date final rates become effective.

In addition, OTP agrees to keep such records of sales and billings under the proposed interim rates as will be necessary to compute any potential refund.

This Agreement and Undertaking is made pursuant to authority granted by the Board of Directors of Otter Tail Power Company.

Dated: November 2, 2023

Bruce Gerhardson

By:

Vice President Regulation & Retail Energy Solutions

Otter Tail Power Company