

EXHIBIT 1

Meeting of Wano Township Zoning committee was called to order by Wayne Wald January 29, 2025 at the Edgeley Career Academy at the High School. Dave Schweigert, Wayne Wald, Cody Rupp and Mike Bartle were present. Also present were many members of the community and several representatives from Ottertail Power Company.

Purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Conditional Use Permit for Ottertail Power for construction of a 345 KV line running north-south through sections 4, 9, 16, 21, 28, and 33. Route might change if warranted.

Kris Koch of Ottertail Power started the discussion. He described what would be installed, that there would be video taken of roads used for construction, and they would fix whatever is damaged. There would be large trucks, cranes, cement trucks and other vehicles used for the project. They will need about 90 miles of power line between substation north of Jamestown, and substation north of Ellendale.

He said there would be a State Public Hearing later, date to be determined.

Hoping construction would start August of 2026, and finished in 2028.

Steve Rupp pointed out that Willowbank has a bad bridge, some of that township is one way in, one way out. They need to clarify situation with Willowbank.

Deb Wald asked about PSC meeting, who will be at it, and she wants to be at the meetings. Again, time to be determined.

Lucas Wald commented on the Willowbank meeting.

Patty Wood Bartle asked (1) why is this needed. They said MISO plan for future transmission lines is based on reliability and projected loads on the system. Also, the 2023 ice storm was brought up, more redundancy in transmission is preferred. (2) How was the route decided upon?

Allen Fischer asked about health effects for cattle and humans. They cited an EMF study from the 1970's that did not find any health effects from the EMF. But were the strength of the EMF of what is proposed studied? Fischer was also worried about cattle not cycling for breeding. Stray voltage effects not from transmission line, but from loose neutrals. He also asked about cancer effects, they said nothing was found.

Steve Nelson asked if we could harvest any stray magnetism that shows up in fence lines. They said it was not safe to try that.

Lines will be minimum of 28 feet off the ground.

Patty Wood Bartle said that only 25% of the land owners have signed easements. What happens if they do not get 100%. Response was that there is a Condemnation Process used to get the easements. IF 60% of all landowners along the line sign easements, they will start Condemnation Process on the unsigned parties. Which will be a lawyer vs lawyer negotiation at that point.

These are private companies, so they will get a state permit for the final route. Which means the state will support the condemnation process.

345 KV, lines will carry 3000 amps, so 1800 MW load will be the sizing of the lines. What actually goes through the lines will depend on conditions in the 2 systems.

Deb Wald said we are used to what is here. These are 100-year easements with access to the lines. She is not comfortable with granting them unlimited access to the ground, and seeing the power line.

Patty Wood Bartle asked about the tower construction, looks like a second set of wires could be added. They said it depends on the load, but it could be done, depending on what happens in the future.

There is a similar line along I94 between Fargo and Minneapolis, the plans are to add the second set of lines about 10 years after the first one was installed.

Richard Long said he had heard that the Data Centers need 2 GigaWatts to operate. That they are the artery supplying all the other headaches they want to add here, the Wind Towers, fertilizer plant at Spiritwood.

Why not run the line next to the one that goes from Jamestown to Edgeley? One is a WAPA line for the cooperatives, the 41.6KV line that goes from Jamestown to Edgeley needs different transformers at each spot.

As regulated utilities, Ottertail Power and MDY do have the right for Condemnation Process (a version of eminent domain).

Brandon Schweigert pointed out that an Ottertail Power line goes across his farmland, and that they needed to repair it last summer. No one has talked to him about compensation for crop damage, he had not given them permission to go across his field, they just went. Response was that it was an emergency outage, they went out as fast as possible to fix the lines. Koch said he would contact someone in Ottertail regarding compensation.

Question was asked if they would use local contractors, answer was yes, if there were any qualified to do the work. Dirt work and Fuel could be local.

Question was asked "why not pay annually, not just once?"

Tim Leppert pointed out that Black Rock has investments in the two power companies and the windmill company, looks like they are running the show.

Patty Wood Bartle said she does not want them in her back yard, the line is ¼ mile from the house. They said they would discuss placement of the line, need a personal meeting to figure it out.

There was a lot of concern expressed about the wind towers, someone said there were 285 proposed to be installed in Stutsman and Lamoure counties that could tie into this line.

Lots of people sounded uncomfortable with the proposed changes regarding the power line and wind towers.

Cody Rupp moved to deny the application. Dave Schweigert seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

EXHIBIT 2

Willowbank Township
Zoning Board Meeting with Ottertail Power Co. Minutes
January 22, 2025

The meeting was brought to order at 6:30 by Robert Senger reading the newspaper notice. Many Willowbank Township and Wano Township residents were present. The meeting was livestreamed on Facebook. Robert Senger and Justin Hill present for Zoning board. Absent was Calvin Wipf due to family emergency.

A presentation was given by Kris Koch from Ottertail Power company. Mr. Koch gave an outline of the JetX transmission line project and the proposed route. He explained the building process of the towers and the hanging of the line by helicopters. He gave an example of the payment the landowners would receive as 150' X ½ mile should pay out on the average a one-time payment of \$55,000. The JetX website will be updated on the route.

After 27 minutes the floor was opened up for questions and discussions. Sandy Rup asked what happens if the landowners in these two townships do not sign the easements. The answer from Mr. Koch was that condemnation would be used. Alan Fischer asked what this line would open up for other things to move into the area. He also commented that no one here benefits from the bitcoin. Mr. Koch's response was that there is congestion, and the power needs to be moved from one area to another and will close a loop. Why not follow highway 281? answer was they try to stay 1 ½ to 2 miles from other power lines. Deb Wald wanted more information on eminent domain. Condemnation process will go to court and can take a few years. Mr. Koch says easement covers installation and getting to them for maintenance at any given time. Comes down quarter section line. Sandy Rupp commented that 285 wind towers are trying to come in and will take up 3000 acres of farmland. Also asked about selling out to another company that will come in. Mr. Koch says he is not surprised that MISO is planning to have wind towers come in. Deb wald commented she was approached to sell 20 acres for a substation. Tim Leppert wanted to know where MISO is? They need to come and talk to people. MISO controls power grid. Steve Nelson wanted to know if MISO is a government agency or private. They are private. Tharen Ness wanted to know who has the final say who taps into this transmission line. It is MISO's decision only.

More questions and concerns are why only one payment. Answer was because the line is not generating revenue only transportation. Steve Nelson argued transportation costs money. Sandy Rupp asked about tornados and damage to farm equipment. Answer was they are built to withstand an ef1 tornado. Other comments included asking if there are health issues which they had no answer. Senate bills 2208 and 1258 were discussed and BlackRock owning Ottertail and MDU was brought up. Also, no real answer for that. Tim

Leppert asked about PSC raising rates to pay for this line. Again, they didn't know. Mr. Koch says there are more data processing planned, and this line will be needed. Richard Long asked if Ottetail was given projections as to what will be needed for the bit coin and data processing centers.

Robert Senger made a motion to close the question session. Seconded by Justin Hill. Robert made a motion to table the decision on approving or denying the conditional use permit due to only having 2 board members present. Justin seconded it.

Robert made a motion to close the meeting . Justin seconded it.

Robert requested that MISO be at the next meeting due to all the questions directed at them. A second meeting will be planned.

Jane Coleman
Willowbank Township Clerk

EXHIBIT 3

Willowbank Zoning Board minutes

April 9th, 2025

Board members present are Calvin Wipf, Robert Senger, Justin Hill

Clerk Jane Coleman

There was a sign up sheet at the door for attendees.

Meeting with Ottertail Representatives was brought to order at 6:30 by Calvin Wipf.

Clerk Jane Coleman stated the purpose of this meeting with Ottertail Power Company is to go over the denial letter sent to Ottertail with their representatives and have a question and answer session.

Ottertail Representative handed out typed sheets with their responses to our denial reasons. They went through each one line by line. Most the reasons stated that it was a landowner issue, not a township issue. Jane Coleman pointed out that in Willowbank's Zoning Ordinance it states that the Purpose and Intent is to protect the health, safety, morals, comfort, convenience, prosperity, and general welfare of the people of the Township of Willowbank. This is stated in 1.2.1 of our ordinance. Ottertail said they did not read that, and only read the part that pertained to electrical lines. They finished going through the letter. Floor was opened for any questions by Bob. Question asked to Kris Koch was why he had stated the West side of 281 was a hard no. Why was East side any different? He said they already had easements on the East side. Comment was made by Tim Leppert that is all for big corporations like Blackrock and not the landowners. No more questions, Calvin motioned to close the Zoning meeting, Bob seconded. Closed at 7:20. .

Township meeting brought to order at 7:20.

Bob made a motion to deny the Conditional Use Permit for Ottertail Power JetX project. Calvin Seconded. All in favor AYE. There were no NAYs. Township meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.

Clerk Jane Coleman

Willowbank Township

EXHIBIT 4

Memorandum

To: Commissioners Christmann, Haugen-Hoffart and Fedorchak

From: Christopher C Hanson Public Utility Analyst
CH

Date: 6/26/2024

Re: Otter Tail Power Company/Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., 345kV Transmission Line-Jamestown to Ellendale, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-24-91

On February 29, 2024, Otter Tail Power Company (OTP) and Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU) filed a joint application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct, own and operate approximately 85 miles of 345kV transmission line and expand four substations located in Stutsman, LaMoure, and Dickey Counties in North Dakota.

A Notice of Opportunity for Hearing was issued on February 29, 2024, with a due date of May 10, 2024. No requests for hearing were received.

Both OTP and MDU are members of the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), which is a Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) responsible for overseeing and managing the electric power transmission grid across 15 U.S. states as well as the Canadian province of Manitoba.

In July 2022, MISO approved the first phase or "tranche" of its Long-Range Transmission Planning (LRTP). Tranche 1 consists of 18 projects, with a total of more than 2,000 miles of lines totaling over \$10 billion in investments. As noted above, this specific project is comprised of 85 miles of 345kV lines with a total estimated investment of \$440 million and is expected to be in service by the end of 2028. \$380 million of this cost is directly related to the 345kV line and the remaining \$60 million is for upgrading four substations to serve the line. Ownership of the facilities is roughly 50/50 with some facilities being owned and operated by one or the other company and some facilities being jointly owned.

MISO utilizes three criteria to determine the necessity of a project. These criteria are that it 1) addresses projected violations of a reliability standard, 2) has a benefit-to-cost ratio in excess of 1.0 and 3) supports the reliable and economic delivery of energy.

This project was identified as a priority by MISO along with the Big Stone South-Alexandria- Big Oaks 345 KV project to relieve 40 transmission elements with excessive thermal loadings for N-1 contingencies and 70 for N-1-1 contingencies which relate to the

ability to maintain normal operations in the event of a single (N-1) or series (N-1-1) of contingent events. Additionally, this project along with other Zone 1 (MSIO subregion containing MDU & OTP operating areas) projects were determined to have a benefit-to-cost ratio of between 2.6 and 4.0. This and the other Tranche 1 projects supports the projected addition of 90 GW of generation in the MISO Midwest Subregion, including over 4.5GW in North Dakota. All of these facts meet or exceed the criteria specified by MISO. MISO has further deemed OTP & MDU capable of constructing and maintaining these facilities.

While these factors support the determination of public convenience and necessity as defined in North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) 49-03.1-04, the costs and benefits entailed are based upon those accrued by MISO as a whole, rather than strictly MDU and OTP individually. Thus, further analysis of the costs and benefits as they related to these companies and their customers is warranted.

A critical point to make regarding this project is that none of MDU's and only a small percentage of OTP's investment in this project will be allocated to the North Dakota jurisdictional rate base. MISO pays the owner of these facilities a return on the investment, depreciation expenses plus an estimate of operating and other expenses based upon standard formulas and thus a majority of this investment is considered to be in the 'FERC' (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) jurisdictional rate base.

Costs for projects approved under MISO's LRTP Tranche 1 will be recovered on a prorata basis utilizing each company's energy use as a proportion of the MISO Subregion total. For MDU this prorata basis is 0.67% and for OTP it is 1.57%. This results in a combined net cost to MDU's and OTP's North Dakota customers of an estimated \$469k annually or roughly \$234-235k each. That translates in an additional cost of \$0.123 per month for MDU and \$0.177 per month for OTP residential customers consuming 1000 kWh per month.

These facilities will also be liable for several million dollars of property taxes paid to various governmental entities in North Dakota based upon the value of these facilities.

Staff requested that MDU & OTP analyze the overall impact of all of the MISO Tranche 1 projects upon their customers as well as this single project. As noted, MISO Tranche 1 is comprised of 18 projects with a total value of \$10.324 billion with a revenue requirement of approximately \$1.25 billion in 2031 after all of the projects are scheduled to be completed. Based upon this analysis, it is estimated that total impact of MISO Tranche 1 will be an additional cost of \$3.15 per month for MDU and \$5.75 per month for OTP residential customers consuming 1000 kWh per month.

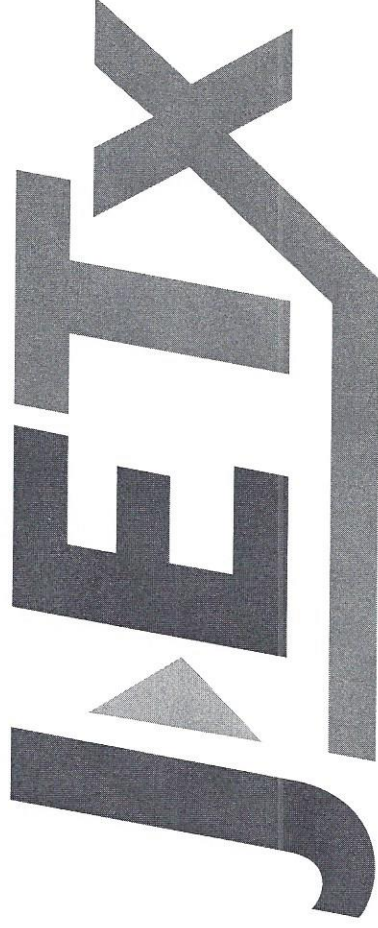
An informal hearing on this matter is scheduled for July 8, 2024, from 1:30-3:00.

Cc Matt Olsen-Otter Tail Power
Travis Jacobson- Montana-Dakota Utilities

EXHIBIT 5

JAMESTOWN – ELLENDALE 345 KV PROJECT

Request for a Certificate of Public Convenience & Necessity (CPCN)



Jamestown to Ellendale



A Subsidiary of MDU Resources Group, Inc.

In the Community to Serve®

17 PU-24-91 Fil
Informal Heari
Otter Tail Pow

Presentation to the North Dakota Public Service Commission | July 8, 2024

AGENDA

- Description of Applicants
 - Project Description
 - Project Need
 - Project Benefits
 - Project Alternatives
 - MISO Long Range Transmission Plan
 - Multi-Value Projects under MISO's Tariff
 - Project Schedule
 - Compliance with CPCN Requirements
 - Conclusions
-

APPLICANTS

Otter Tail Power Company (Otter Tail)

- Investor-owned electric utility headquartered in Fergus Falls, MN;
- Serves over 133,000 customers spanning 70,000 square miles in eastern North northeastern South Dakota and western Minnesota;
- Owns ~6,000 miles of transmission lines and ~1,100 MW of generation capacity
- Transmission-owning member of the Midcontinent Independent System Operator
- Certified copy of Otter Tail's Articles of Incorporation on file with the Commission (677), as well as a 2024 certificate of good standing (PU-23-039)

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (Montana-Dakota)

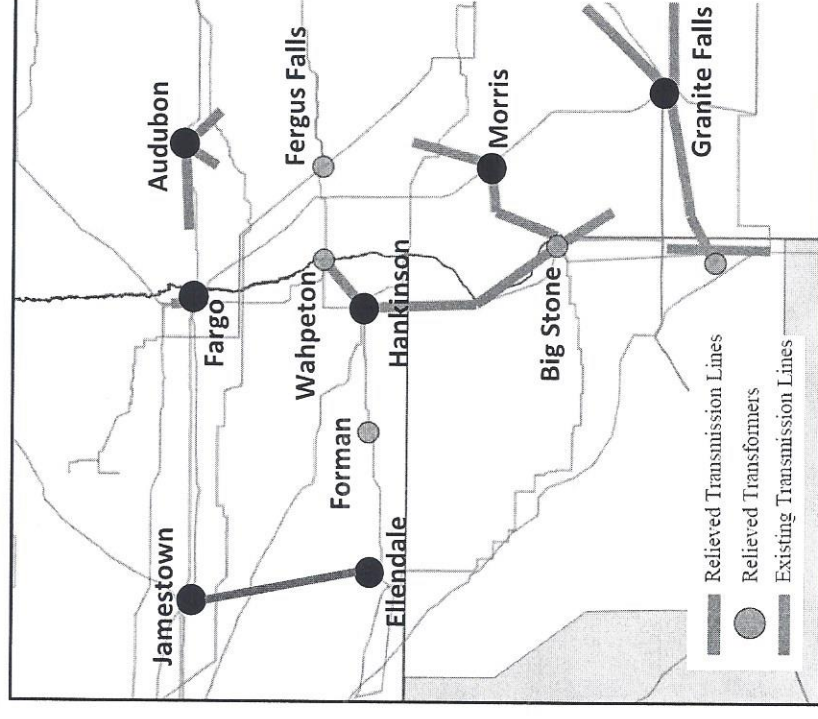
- Investor-owned electric utility headquartered in Bismarck, ND;
- 128,000 customers served over 86,000 square miles in western and central North eastern Montana and north central South Dakota;
- Owns ~3,400 miles of transmission lines and ~709 MW of generation capacity;
- Transmission-owning member of the Midcontinent Independent System Operator
- Certified copy of Montana-Dakota's Articles of Incorporation on file with the Commission (08-710), as well as a 2024 certificate of good standing (PU-08-710)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- Project involves a new 345 kV transmission line between Otter Tail's existing Jamestown Substation and Montana-Dakota's existing Ellendale Substation with underlying substation upgrades.
 - 345 kV Transmission Line: 85 – 95 miles long;
 - Jamestown Substation Expansion: New 345 kV termination;
 - Ellendale Substation Expansion: New 345 kV termination;
 - Maple River Substation Expansion: Replace existing 345/230 kV transformers;
 - Twin Brooks (SD) Substation Expansion: Install new 345 kV reactors.
- Anticipated typical structures
 - Double circuit (one circuit installed initially);
 - Steel monopole, self-supporting structures with average height of 150 feet;
 - Concrete foundations with between 4 - 6 Structures per mile.
- Estimated cost = \$440 million

PROJECT NEED

- Existing 230 kV system in eastern North Dakota, eastern South Dakota and west-central Minnesota is heavily constrained for different seasons of the year, especially during peak conditions.
- Reliability concerns during system intact conditions and N-1 contingencies
 - Excessive loadings
 - Voltage depressions
- The Project, along with the Big Stone South – Alexandria – Big Oaks 345 kV project, most effectively addresses these reliability concerns.



PROJECT BENEFITS

- Enhanced reliability
 - Address loading and voltage violations
 - Increased transmission capacity
 - Enable new commercial and industrial loads
 - Accommodate new electric generation projects
 - Reduce transmission constraints to export more North Dakota generation
 - Increased resilience to extreme weather events
 - Reliability benefits to Jamestown and Ellendale load pockets
 - Support local residents, political subdivisions and businesses
 - Landowner payments
 - Political subdivisions: property tax, sales tax, special assessments, etc.
 - Local suppliers/services: road improvements, tree clearing, concrete, gravel, fuel, meals lodging, etc.
 - Increased employment opportunities
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PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

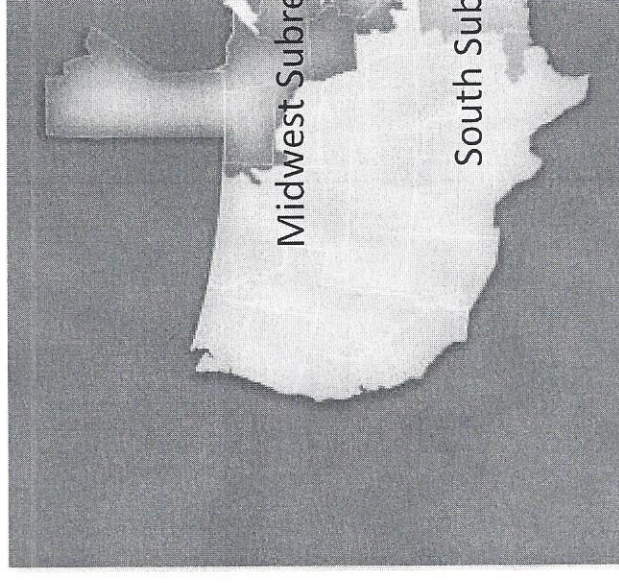
#	Project 1	Project 2
-	Jamestown – Ellendale 345 kV Line	Big Stone South – Alexandria – Big Oaks 345 kV Line
1	Jamestown – Ellendale 345 kV Line	Big Stone South – Alexandria 345 kV Line
2	Jamestown – Ellendale 345 kV Line	Big Stone South – Hankinson – Fergus Falls 345 kV Line
3	Jamestown – Ellendale 345 kV Line	Big Stone South – Hazel Creek – Blue Lake 345 kV Line
4	Jamestown – Ellendale 345 kV Line	Big Stone South – Alexandria 345 kV line + Big Stone South – Hazel Creek – Blue Lake 345 kV Line
5	Jamestown – Ellendale 345 kV Line	Big Stone South – Breckenridge – Barnesville 345 kV Line

- The Project is common to every combination of alternative projects considered by MISO to address the issues on the heavily constrained system in eastern North Dakota, eastern South Dakota and western Minnesota.

MISO'S LONG RANGE TRANSMISSION PLAN (LRTP)

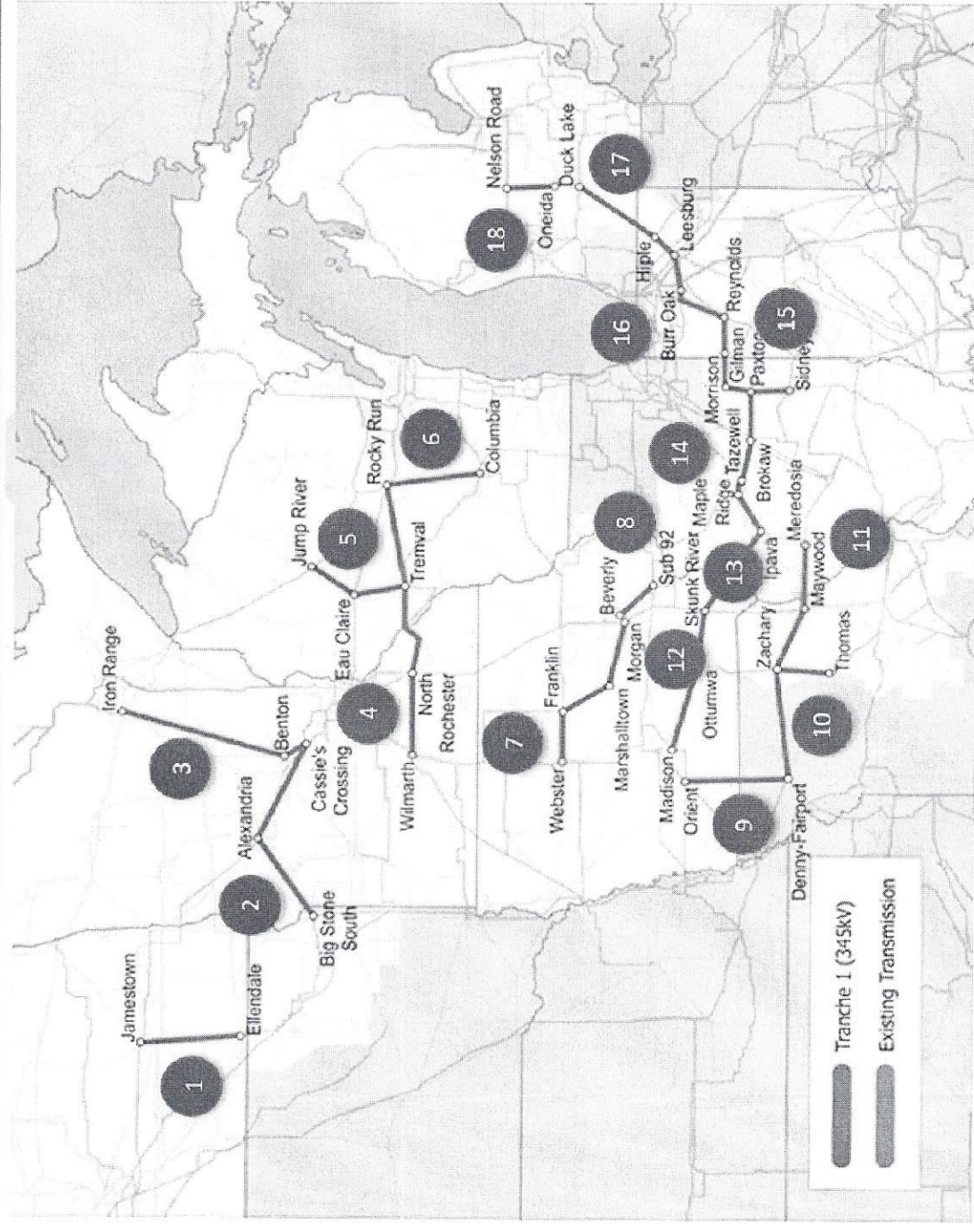
- MISO's Long Range Transmission Plan (LRTP) was initiated in 2021 with the goal of providing a long-term, orderly and timely transmission expansion plan to provide an orderly and timely transmission expansion plan. The plan is designed to provide a transmission system that is reliable, cost-efficient, and flexible.

- Tranche 1: Approved by MISO in July 2022 for the Midwest subregion.
- Tranche 2: Focused on the Midwest subregion.
 - Tranche 2.1: MISO approval anticipated in Dec. 2024.
 - Tranche 2.2: MISO studies to follow in 2025/2026.
- Tranche 3: Focused on South subregion.
- Tranche 4: Intraregional project(s) between Midwest subregion and South subregion.



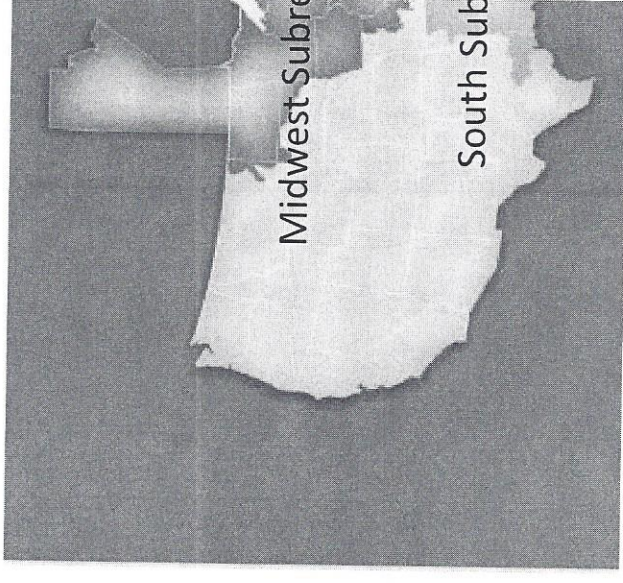
MISO'S LRTP TRANCHE 1 TRANSMISSION PORTFOLIO

- MISO approved 18 transmission projects in 2022 as part of the portfolio.
- Represents over 20 years of new and upgraded transmission lines totaling \$10 billion of investment.
- New transmission projects approved as Multi-Value Projects (MVPs).



MULTI-VALUE PROJECT (MVP) UNDER MISO'S TARIFF

- Multi-Value Projects (MVPs):
 - (1) address transmission issues that are a violation of a reliability standard;
 - (2) provide multiple types of economic value across a broad area with a benefit-to-cost ratio of 1.0 or higher; or
 - (3) support the reliable and economic delivery of energy.
- Cost for MVPs in the Tranche 1 Portfolio are allocated on a pro-rata basis to all load in the MISO Midwest subregion based on energy usage.
 - Otter Tail's ND load ratio share = 0.61%
 - Montana-Dakota's ND load ratio share = 0.47%



JETX PROJECT SCHEDULE

2023: 1st Half

- Define Study Area
- Develop Corridors
- Public Meeting #1
- Landowner Outreach

2024: 1st Half

- Start Securing Land Rights
- CPCN Submitted to ND PSC

2025: 2nd Half

- PSC Decision on ND Route Permit
- Tree Clearing
- Pre-construction Activities

1st Half

2nd Half

1st Half

2nd Half

1st Half

2nd Half

1st Half

2nd Half

1st Half

2nd Half

1st Half

2023

2023: 2nd Half

- Develop Routes
- Public Meeting #2
- Landowner Outreach
- Identify Preferred Route
- Surveys

2024: 2nd Half

- PSC Decision on CPCN
- Route Permit Submitted to ND PSC
- Public Hearing(s)

2026

2026: 1st Half

- Start Construction
- Foundations
- Structures
- Conductor

2027

- Fin
- En
- Res

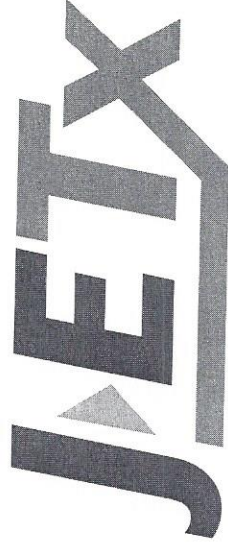
COMPLIANCE WITH CPCN REQUIREMENTS

NDCC	Description	Compliance
49-03-01.4	Electric public utility or electric transmission provider does not violate or threaten to violate any of the provisions of section 49-03-01 through 49-03-01.5 or does not interfere with or threaten to interfere with the service or system of any other electric public utility or rural electric cooperative.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Project will not provide service and will not interfere with service provided by any other utility. The Project provides reasonable capacity, among several utilities, and can be accessed by any stakeholder.
49-03-02 (1)	Certified copy of articles of incorporation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Otter Tail has articles of incorporation available in Case No. PU-2019-0001. Montana-Dakota has articles of incorporation available in Case No. PU-2019-0001.
49-03-02 (1)	Evidence showing that the applicant has received the consent, franchise, permit, ordinance or other authority of the proper public authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Applicants will obtain permits from federal, state and local authorities prior to construction. The Applicants anticipate obtaining a certificate of corridor use prior to permit application with Q3 2024.

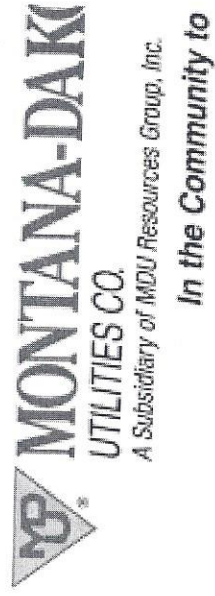
CONCLUSIONS

- Public convenience and necessity will be served by the Applicants construction, ownership and operation of the Project because of reliability and economic benefits provided to North Dakota customers.
 - The Project is part of MISO's Long Range Transmission Plan (LRTP) as part of the 2021 MISO Transmission Expansion Plan ("MTEP21", integral to delivering the reliability and economic benefits of the Portfolio.
 - The Applicants are fit, willing and able to construct, own and operate the Project as proven through their articles of incorporation, certification and success in past transmission projects.
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QUESTIONS



Jamestown to Ellendale



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