

5. As described in the Company's Application for Deferred Accounting, the costs for which the Company is seeking deferred accounting treatment relate to the extension of the operating life of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Facility.

6. As described in the Company's Rate Case and supporting testimony, the rate impact of the Company's decision to extend the operating life of the Prairie Island Generating Facility, among other things, is at issue in the Rate Case.

7. The costs the Company is seeking to defer in the instant Case and the impact to rates in the Rate Case all stem from the Company's proposal to extend the useful life of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Facility and have similar issues of fact.

8. The Application for Deferred Accounting having been filed concurrent with this motion and the Rate Case having been filed one day prior and neither Case having commenced in earnest, there will be no prejudice to the public in consolidating the Cases.

9. Pursuant to N.D.C.C. § 49-01-07 and N.D.A.C. § 69-02-04-04, in light of the similar facts and circumstances applicable to both Cases, the Company hereby respectfully requests the Commission issue an Order consolidating for hearing the Application in the above-captioned matter with the Rate Case.

Respectfully submitted,

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DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP



By: _____
Zeviel T. Simpser
North Dakota Bar #06794
Dorsey & Whitney LLP
50 South Sixth Street
Suite 1500
Minneapolis, MN 55402
Telephone: (612) 492-6129
Email: simpser.zev@dorsey.com