

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF OTTER TAIL POWER	)	ORDER APPROVING
COMPANY'S PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF	)	PHASE-IN
PHASE-IN RIDER RATE	)	RIDER FACTOR
	)	
	)	EL20-019

On June 1, 2020, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a petition from Otter Tail Power Company (Otter Tail) for approval of its first annual update to its Phase-in Rate Plan Rider. In this filing, Otter Tail proposes to adjust the Phase-in Rate Plan Rider Rate to reflect the applicable rider revenue requirements for the next recovery period (September 2020 – August 2021), to recover actual and forecasted costs for the Astoria Station Natural Gas Plant project, Merricourt Wind Project, forecasted net benefits associated with additional load in the Lake Norden area, and net savings associated with Otter Tail's retirement of its Hoot Lake Plant. Otter Tail states a typical residential electric customer using an average of 1,000 kWh per month will see an increase of \$3.20 per month resulting from this filing. Otter Tail proposes an effective date of September 1, 2020.

On June 5, 2020, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of June 19, 2020, to interested entities and persons on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. On July 29, 2020, Otter Tail submitted a Supplemental Filing reflecting changes identified by Otter Tail and Commission staff, resulting in a revised proposed charge of 6.521 percent of base rates. On July 30, 2020, Commission staff filed its Memorandum. The tariff sheets effective for service rendered on September 1, 2020, and through August 31, 2021, are as follows:

South Dakota P.U.C. Volume II – Electric Rate Schedule

Section 13.09

First Revised Sheet No. 1

Cancelling Original Sheet No.1

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A, specifically 49-34A-4, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-10, 49-34A-12, and 49-34A-73 through 49-34A-78.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on August 4, 2020, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff recommended the Commission approve Otter Tail's request, as submitted in its Supplemental Filing, for approval of a revenue requirement of \$1,624,525 for the September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021 plan year and a 6.521 "percent of bill" phase-in rider factor effective September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021. The typical residential electric customer using an average of 1,000 kWh per month will see an increase of \$2.30 per month. Finding the request to be just and reasonable, the Commission voted unanimously to approve Otter Tail's request for a phase-in rider as recommended by Commission staff.

It is therefore

ORDERED, that the revenue requirement as provided in Otter Tail's Supplemental Filing and resulting phase-in rider factor of 6.521 percent of base rates is hereby approved.

It is further

ORDERED, that the above-referenced tariff sheet is hereby approved effective September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 6th day of August 2020.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically or by mail.

By:

Karen E. Bremer

Date:

08/06/20

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner