

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT
AND PETITION OF VALLEY QUEEN
CHEESE FACTORY, INC., OTTER TAIL
POWER COMPANY, RESPONDENT.

CE15-001

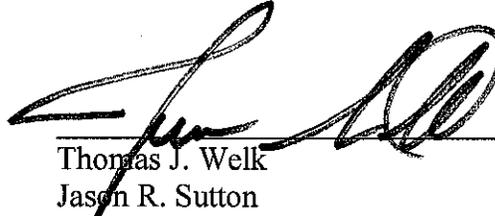
**STIPULATION AS TO JOINT FILING
AND REQUEST FOR STAY**

Valley Queen Cheese Factory, Inc. (“Valley Queen”) and Otter Tail Power Company (“Otter Tail”) make this joint filing to provide notice to the Public Utilities Commission of the State of South Dakota (“Commission”) regarding the entry of the order entered by the Federal Court of the United States District Court, Northern Division in the matter captioned *Valley Queen Cheese Factory, Inc. v. Otter Tail Power Company*, Case No. 15-1022, United States District Court for the District of South Dakota (Northern Division) dated January 7, 2016, denying the motion to dismiss previously filed by Otter Tail, which is attached as Exhibit A. In addition, attached as Exhibit B is the joint stipulation and order approved by the Federal Court in the same action approving an extension of time to answer until April 1, 2016.

Valley Queen and Otter Tail have agreed to attempt to negotiate a settlement through voluntary negotiations and, if unsuccessful, a mediation. These matters are currently scheduled to be concluded by April 1, 2016.

Valley Queen and Otter Tail request the Commission stay any further proceedings in this matter until further notice of the partners. The parties agree to provide notice on or about April 4, 2016 as to the status of their negotiations.

Dated this 22nd day of February, 2016.



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Dated this 19th day of February, 2016.

WOODS, FULLER, SHULTZ & SMITH P.C.



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