

A typical community in our service area Astoria, South Dakota

With hometown understanding of the people and places we serve, we carefully balance each decision we make with the impact it has on you—our friends and neighbors. In South Dakota we serve 49 communities. Astoria, in the northeast corner of the state, is one community our customers call home.

Astoria's history

Western Town Lot Company founded Astoria in 1900, but it wasn't until 1917 that County Commissioners incorporated the town. It's located east of the beautiful Couteau des Prairies hills and north of the clear springs that provide water to the town. And when you visit, make sure to eat at Campbell's Kitchen.

Our proposed Astoria Station

We're seeking regulatory approvals to build Astoria Station, a new natural gas-fired electricity-generating station. Astoria Station is part of our company's plan to reliably, economically, and environmentally responsibly meet our customers' energy needs, replace expiring capacity purchase agreements, and prepare for the 2021 retirement of the 1950s-era 140-megawatt coal-fired Hoot Lake Plant in Fergus Falls, Minnesota.



Our **community** commitment



Electronic billing offers convenient benefits

Simple.

Secure.

Smart.

Switching to electronic billing is secure, fast, and free. With electronic billing, you'll have access to your bill history online anytime you need it, while avoiding the clutter of keeping paper bills and eliminating the risk of your personal information falling into the wrong hands.

With ePay, our electronic billing and payment option, you'll be able to:

- Choose to set up automatic payments or log in to schedule your payment each month.
- Receive emails or text alerts when you have a new bill.
- Pay with your bank account.
- Access your billing online—anytime.

And ePay is FREE! Get started today at otpc.com/ePayEasy.

ePay is just one billing and payment option we offer. To learn more visit otpc.com/PaymentOptions or call us at 800-257-4044 or 218-739-8877.

Seal air leaks to see savings

Air leaks are the biggest energy wasters in your home. The good news is that it doesn't cost much to seal them. You'll enjoy a more comfortable home and reduce your energy bills at the same time. Caulk, weather strip, and/or insulate around:

- Entrance doors.
- Electrical outlets and switch plates on exterior walls.
- Bathroom and kitchen exhaust fans.
- Exterior hose connections, such as dryer exhausts.
- Areas where ductwork, electrical wiring, or plumbing extends through floors, ceilings, or exterior walls.
- Warm-air registers and water-heater and furnace flues.
- New and replacement windows, or existing windows with cracked caulk.

Ready to start sealing? Visit otpc.com/AirLeaks for weatherizing tips and how-to videos.



They're back

Our popular pocket calendars are available for 2018. Request one by emailing pocketcalendar@otpc.com. Be sure to include your name, full address, and the number of calendars you'll need (limit 5).

Don't have email access? Write us at Pocket Calendars, Otter Tail Power Company, PO Box 496, Fergus Falls, MN 56538-0496



Use these tips for safe vehicle backing

Safety is one of our company's core values. Follow these safety tips when backing up in your vehicle.

- **Before entering your vehicle,** inspect the backing area to make sure it's clear.
- **While backing,** you should have a clear view of the area behind the vehicle. If you don't have a clear view, ask a passenger or other person to act as a guide and another set of eyes.
- **Alone?** Thoroughly inspect the area behind your vehicle. Then, sound your vehicle's horn before you back slowly.



EMPLOYEE PROFILE



Energy Management Representative

Roger Garton

Roger meets with our business customers in Bemidji and Crookston, Minnesota, about efficiency projects and opportunities to use energy more effectively. And he works on efficient design and proper rate selection for our customers' new construction projects. Roger's solar energy background allows him to also provide expertise on potential solar projects for our customers. In his personal life, Roger volunteers for many community organizations and events. He and his wife are expecting their first child this spring.

Customers, meet Roger!

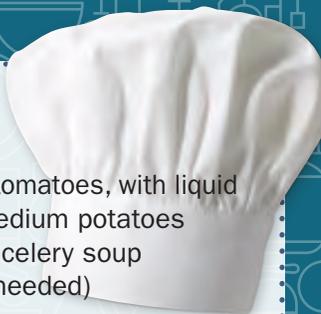
Customers' cookery

Sausage casserole

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 to 1 ½ pounds pork sausage | 2 cups canned tomatoes, with liquid |
| 2 cups shredded cabbage | 4 to 5 sliced medium potatoes |
| ½ cup diced onion | 1 can cream of celery soup |
| ½ cup diced carrots | 1 can water (if needed) |

In skillet, cook meat and onion until brown. Drain fat. Stir in tomatoes, cabbage, and carrots. Pour into greased baking dish and add sliced potatoes as top layer. Pour cream of celery soup over all. Add water if there's not enough liquid. Bake at 350° for 45 minutes or until potatoes are done.

Submitted by customer Eileen Bohn, Hankinson, North Dakota



Customer Connection
Otter Tail Power Company
PO Box 496
Fergus Falls, MN 56538-0496
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800-257-4044 or 218-739-8877

Send your favorite recipe to rmichael@otpc.com or to the above address.

If we use your recipe, we'll send you a gift to thank you.

