

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST FOR) APPROVAL OF AN ELECTRIC SERVICE) TERRITORY BOUNDARY AGREEMENT) BETWEEN NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION) DBA NORTHWESTERN ENERGY AND WEST) CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.))	ORDER GRANTING APPROVAL OF ELECTRIC SERVICE TERRITORY BOUNDARY CHANGES EL13-001
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On January 10, 2013, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an electric service territory boundary agreement between NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy (NWE) and West Central Electric Cooperative, Inc. (West Central). This filing is made pursuant to current efforts of the PUC to verify electric territory mapping data for conversion to electronic format and use in a Geographic Information System (GIS) database. With the assistance of the above-referenced utilities, Commission Staff has confirmed the service territory boundary shared by these utilities and has prepared updated mapping information. Commission Staff asks for approval of the agreement to update official mapping data to properly reflect the service territory boundaries shared by the utilities in this docket.

On January 17, 2013, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of February 1, 2013, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-42, 49-34A-43 and 49-34A-55.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on February 12, 2013, the Commission considered this matter. Commission Staff requested approval of the agreement in order to update official electric service territory mapping data to accurately reflect current service territories served by the utilities. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the agreement. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the request for approval of the agreement to update mapping data to reflect current electric service territory boundaries shared by NorthWestern Energy and West Central Electric Cooperative, Inc. is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 15th day of February, 2013.

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.
By: <u>[Signature]</u>
Date: <u>2-15-13</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

[Signature: Gary Hanson]
GARY HANSON, Chairman

[Signature: Chris Nelson]
CHRIS NELSON, Commission

[Signature: Kristie Fiegen]
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commission