

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST)
FOR SERVICE RIGHTS EXCEPTION)
BETWEEN NORTHERN STATES POWER)
COMPANY DBA XCEL ENERGY AND SIOUX)
VALLEY ENERGY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE)**

**ORDER GRANTING APPROVAL
OF AN EXCEPTION TO ASSIGNED
ELECTRIC SERVICE TERRITORY**

EL13-021

On June 12, 2013, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an executed "Service Territory Agreement" (Agreement) requesting approval of an electric service territory exception between Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy (Xcel) and Sioux Valley Energy Electric Cooperative (Sioux Valley). Per customer request, the proposed exception to the existing service territory boundary will permit Xcel to provide three-phase service to an irrigation center pivot located in Sioux Valley's service territory. A map showing the location was included in the filing. The Agreement includes a Consent signed by the affected landowner.

On June 13, 2013, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of June 28, 2013, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically 49-34A-42 through 49-34A-44 and 49-34A-55.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of July 2, 2013, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff recommended approval of the request for an exception to the electric service territory with the condition that the parties to the Agreement file an amended map. Finding that Xcel's provision of electric service to the irrigation center pivot will avoid unnecessary duplication of facilities, provide adequate electric service to the customer affected, and promote the efficient and economical use and development of Xcel and Sioux Valley's electric systems and that it is in the public interest, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the exception to Sioux Valley's assigned service territory subject to the conditions that Xcel file a corrected map of the area and that the service rights exception is limited to service to this particular irrigation service, does not provide a permanent right to serve the location, and will terminate upon the termination of this particular service. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the request for approval of an exception to the assigned service territories of Xcel and Sioux Valley Energy is hereby granted subject to the terms of the Agreement and to the conditions that Xcel file a corrected map of the area and that the service rights exception is limited to service to this particular irrigation service, does not provide a permanent right to serve the location, and will terminate upon the termination of this particular service.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 9th day of July, 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: Tina Douglas

Date: 7-9-13

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commission

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commission