

**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 NORTHERN ELECTRIC)
COOPERATIVE, INC. FKA SPINK ELECTRIC)
COOPERATIVE, INC. AND NORTHWESTERN)
CORPORATION DBA NORTHWESTERN)
ENERGY)**

**ORDER GRANTING
APPROVAL OF ELECTRIC
SERVICE TERRITORY
BOUNDARY AGREEMENT**

EL14-103

On December 5, 2014, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from the Commission's staff (Staff) regarding an electric service territory boundary agreement between Northern Electric Cooperative, Inc. fka Spink Electric Cooperative, Inc. and NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy. This filing is made pursuant to current efforts of the Commission 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, Staff has confirmed the service territory boundary shared by these utilities and has prepared updated mapping information. 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 December 11, 2014, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of December 29, 2014, 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, 49-34A-43 and 49-34A-55.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on January 6, 2015, the Commission considered this matter. 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 Northern Electric Cooperative, Inc. fka Spink Electric Cooperative, Inc. and NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 6th day of January, 2015.

<p>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>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.</p> <p>By: <u>[Signature]</u></p> <p>Date: <u>1/9/15</u></p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

[Signature: Gary Hanson]
GARY HANSON, Chairman

[Signature: Chris Nelson]
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

[Signature: Kristie Fiegen]
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner