




West River Electric Association, Inc.

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

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July 19, 2023

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen, Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
State Capitol Building, 1st Floor
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

RE: JOINT AMENDED SERVICE TERRITORY LINE AGREEMENT
DOCKET NO. EL22_____

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Enclosed for filing please find a copy of mutually agreed upon Amended Service Territory Line Agreement between West River Electric Association, Inc. and Black Hills Energy. This agreement seeks to modify territory lines in section 31 of T5N R6E, which is located in Meade County, South Dakota. West River Electric Association, Inc. and Black Hills Energy respectfully request that the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission approve the attached executed Amended Service Territory Line Agreement and allow the boundary lines to be modified.

BACKGROUND

West River Electric Association Inc, and Black Hills Energy, have reached a mutual agreement regarding the exchange of territory concerning Lot A of the SE1/4SE1/4. This decision is based on careful considerations of both utility companies' infrastructure placement and the cost implications associated with the member's requested line extension. Currently, West River Electric has existing infrastructure located just across the road from the lot, while Black Hills Energy's closest location is approximately 1800 feet to the west. The landowner of the property in question is also agreeable to having West River Electric as a service provider due to reason stated above. In exchange for this service territory line amendment, West River Electric agrees to provide an equitable customer in future platting of the Shepherd Hills development which is served by both West River Electric and Black Hills Energy. This future customer will be identified once the final plat is completed. This one-time exchange for a future customer is not Black Hills Energy's normal practice and in no way does this set precedent for future actions.

West River Electric Association, Inc. and Black Hills Energy respectfully request the approval of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission for this amended service territory line agreement.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at the number listed below.

Mission Statement:

West River Electric Association, Inc. shall strive to continually improve customer service and satisfaction by providing safe, reliable, efficient and reasonably priced electricity and services, while leading in the development of our community for the well being of our members.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matt Schmahl".

Matt Schmahl
Construction Project Manager
(605)391-1956

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Johnson".

Richard Johnson
CEO/General Manager
West River Electric Association, Inc.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Pogany".

Michael Pogany
General Manager
Black Hills Energy

Enclosures: