

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY SIOUX))	ORDER APPROVING
VALLEY-SOUTHWESTERN ELECTRIC))	AGREEMENT FOR SALE OF
COOPERATIVE, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF AN))	PROPERTY AND TRANSFER
AGREEMENT FOR SALE OF PROPERTY AND))	OF SERVICE TERRITORY
TRANSFER OF SERVICE TERRITORY))	
BETWEEN H-D ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE,))	EL97-003
INC. AND SIOUX VALLEY-SOUTHWESTERN))	
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.))	

On February 20, 1997, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an agreement for sale of property and transfer of service territory between H-D Electric Cooperative and Sioux Valley-Southwestern Electric Cooperative. This agreement between the two parties seeks a transfer of service territory. Sioux Valley-Southwestern identified four miles of single-phase line that were in need of major pole replacement and maintenance. H-D has a three phase feeder and other lines in the area and could provide service to the customers with less immediate capital investment. Representatives of both Cooperatives have concluded that in this instance, the consumers' interests will be better served with service from H-D and have agreed to the transfer of service. The property and service territory affected is described as:

the southwest quarter (1/4) of Section 1, the south half (1/2) of Section 2, the south half (1/2) of Section 3, the east half (1/2) of Section 10, Section 11, the northwest quarter (1/4) of Section 12, the east half (1/2) of Section 15, the north half (1/2) of the northeast quarter (1/4) of Section 14, the northeast quarter (1/4) of Section 22, and the north half (1/2) of Section 23, all in Township 112 North, Range 48 West, County of Brookings, State of South Dakota.

At its regularly scheduled June 24, 1997, meeting, the Commission considered the matter. Commission Staff recommended approval.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically 49-34A-42 and 49-34A-55. Further, the Commission finds that the transfer of service territory will promote the efficient use and development of the electric systems of the contracting electric utilities. The Commission therefore concludes that the transfer of service territory is in the public interest and the request shall be granted. It is therefore

ORDERED that the request seeking approval of service territory transfer is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 2nd day of July, 1997.

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, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.	
By:	<u><i>Delaine Kalles</i></u>
Date:	<u>7/3/97</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner