

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY THE) TOWN OF PICKSTOWN, SOUTH DAKOTA,) AND CHARLES MIX ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION,) INC. FOR APPROVAL OF AN ELECTRIC) SERVICE TERRITORY AGREEMENT)))))))	ORDER GRANTING APPROVAL OF THE SERVICE TERRITORY AGREEMENT EL97-017
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On September 5, 1997, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing by the Town of Pickstown, South Dakota, and Charles Mix Electric Association, Inc., for approval of an electric service territory agreement. The agreement is between the Town of Pickstown (Pickstown) and Charles Mix Electric Association, Inc. (CMEA). Both parties agreed that CMEA would give Pickstown the right to serve a boat ramp area operated by the United States Department of Army, Corps of Engineers. Both parties believe this agreement promotes efficiency and is in their best interests and the best interests of the public. The United States Department of Army, Corps of Engineers, as the affected customer, has been notified and, on August 18, 1997, signed the agreement between Pickstown and CMEA, consenting to the agreement.

The area of service rights affected by this Order is described as that territory currently in CMEA's territory described as: the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section 9, Township 95 North, Range 65 West, in Charles Mix County, South Dakota, and which is further known as a boat ramp area on the Missouri River including street lights illuminating the boat ramp, as well as any future electrical expansion in the boat ramp area that may, from time to time, be required by the United States Department of Army, Corps of Engineers.

On September 25, 1997, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the request for approval of the exchange. Commission staff recommended approval.

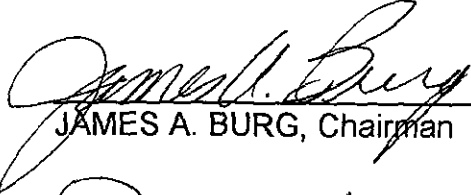


The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-4, 49-34A-42, and 49-34A-55. Further, the Commission finds that the waiver of service territory rights will promote efficiency and is in the best interests of Pickstown, CMEA, and the public. The Commission therefore concludes that the transfer of service rights is in the public interest and the request shall be granted. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED that the request seeking approval of the agreement of limited waiver of service territory described herein and incorporated by reference shall be approved.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 3rd day of October, 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>Debra Kello</i> </u>
Date: <u> 10/7/97 </u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

 _____ JAMES A. BURG, Chairman
 _____ PAM NELSON, Commissioner
 _____ LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner