

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY)	ORDER GRANTING
NORTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE)	APPROVAL OF
COMPANY AND DAKOTA ENERGY)	ASSIGNMENT OF ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF)	SERVICE
ASSIGNMENT OF ELECTRIC SERVICE)	EL97-012

On June 11, 1997, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an agreement from Northwestern Public Service Company (Northwestern) and Dakota Energy Cooperative, Inc. (Dakota) for assignment of electric service territory in the Holabird vicinity. Mr. Justin Pietz will be occupying a new residence at the site of an abandoned farm. This site is in Northwestern's assigned service territory, but Dakota's electric line is located near this site. The agreement allows Dakota to provide service up to a maximum of 75 kw to a residence recently constructed and occupied by Mr. Pietz or subsequent occupant.

The location to be served by Dakota is described as :

The Southeast Quarter (SE1/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4) of Section 7, Township 112 North, Range 73 West of the Fifth P.M. in Hyde County, South Dakota.

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

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 rights is in the public interest and the request shall be granted. It is therefore

ORDERED that the request seeking approval of the assignment of service rights 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>Delvin Kalbo</i></u>
Date: <u>7/3/97</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

<u><i>James A. Burg</i></u> JAMES A. BURG, Chairman
<u><i>Pam Nelson</i></u> PAM NELSON, Commissioner
<u><i>Laska Schoenfelder</i></u> LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner