

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING FOR)	ORDER GRANTING
APPROVAL OF A CONSENT AND)	APPROVAL OF AN
AGREEMENT FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE IN)	EXCEPTION TO THE
ASSIGNED SERVICE TERRITORY OF)	ASSIGNED ELECTRIC
ANOTHER ELECTRIC SUPPLIER BETWEEN)	SERVICE TERRITORY
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY AND NORTHERN)	EL03-015
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.)	

On April 30, 2003, NorthWestern Energy and Northern Electric Cooperative, Inc. filed a "Consent and Agreement for Electric Service in Assigned Service Territory of Another Electric Supplier." NorthWestern Energy consents to Northern Electric Cooperative, Inc. providing electrical service to the house and future out buildings on the property owned by Mark and Rebecca Labrie described as that part of the SW1/4 West of South Dakota Highway 37 in Section 6, Township 116 North, Range 61 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, Spink County, South Dakota, except the North 949 feet, the Railroad right-of-way, and Lot H-1 and H-2, and; the abandoned Railroad right-of-way in the SW1/4 West of South Dakota Highway 37 in Section 6, Township 116 North, Range 61 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, Spink County, South Dakota. Mark and Rebecca Labrie have consented to this transfer.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of June 3, 2003, the Commission considered the matter. Commission Staff recommended approval of the joint request.

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 Northern Electric Cooperative, Inc. may provide electrical service to the house and future out buildings on the above described property as it will avoid unnecessary duplication of facilities, provide adequate electric service to all customers affected, and promote the efficient use and development of the electric systems of Northern Electric Cooperative, Inc. and NorthWestern Energy. Further, the Commission finds that an exception to the assigned service territory is in the public interest and the request shall be granted. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the request seeking approval of an exception to the assignment of service territory is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 10th day of June, 2003.

<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, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.</p> <p>By: <u>Melaine Kolbo</u></p> <p>Date: <u>6/12/03</u></p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Robert K. Sahr
ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman *rk*

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner