

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST) FOR AN ELECTRIC SERVICE TERRITORY) BOUNDARY CHANGE BETWEEN XCEL) ENERGY, INC. AND SIOUX VALLEY-) SOUTHWESTERN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE,) INC. D/B/A SIOUX VALLEY ENERGY)	ORDER GRANTING APPROVAL OF CHANGES IN THE ELECTRIC SERVICE TERRITORY EL04-025
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On August 6, 2004, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a joint filing by Xcel Energy, Inc. (Xcel) and Sioux Valley-Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc. d/b/a Sioux Valley Energy (SVE) for approval of an electric service territory boundary change. The agreement seeks a modification to the existing service territories of the respective companies allowing each party to better serve present and future customers within the modified territories. The electric service boundary change is as follows:

Xcel shall transfer to SVE the South 1/2 of the NW 1/4 of Section 27 and the South 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of Section 28 in Brandon Township of Minnehaha County in the state of South Dakota.

SVE shall transfer to Xcel the SW 1/4, North of the Big Sioux River of Section 28 and the SE 1/4, North of the Big Sioux River of Section 29 of Brandon Township of Minnehaha County in the state of South Dakota, excluding the existing customers, Randall Eitrem and Leroy Beiningen (SVE map locations 021-2-029-04 and 021-2-029-04-1), which will continue to be served by SVE as an exception.

On November 30, 2004, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the request for approval of the boundary change. 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 change in service territory boundary 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 Xcel and SVE. The Commission therefore concludes that the change in the service territory boundary is in the public interest and it shall be granted. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that the request seeking approval of an electric service territory boundary change between Xcel and SVE is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 10th day of December, 2004.

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>Dilaine Kolbo</i></u>
Date: <u>12/13/04</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Robert K. Sahr
ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner