

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST FOR AN) ELECTRIC SERVICE TERRITORY) BOUNDARY CHANGE BETWEEN BLACK) HILLS POWER, INC. AND BUTTE ELECTRIC) COOPERATIVE, INC.))	ORDER GRANTING APPROVAL OF ELECTRIC SERVICE TERRITORY BOUNDARY CHANGE EL06-010
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On March 29, 2006, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing by Black Hills Power, Inc. (BHP) for approval of an electric service territory boundary change between BHP and Butte Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Butte). BHP agrees to transfer to Butte the South ½ of Section 10, Township 5 North, Range 4 East of the Black Hills Meridian, Lawrence County, South Dakota. This filing is to implement a change originally agreed to on October 24, 1989, allowing Butte to serve this area, but inadvertently not filed nor changed at that time.

On July 11, 2006, 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 the matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-4, 49-34A-42, and 49-34A-55. Further, the Commission finds that the boundary change will avoid unnecessary duplication of facilities and help minimize operational challenges. The Commission 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 BHP and Butte is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 20th day of July, 2006.

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>Delaine Kalbo</u>
Date: <u>7/21/06</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION: _____

Robert K. Sahr
ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman

Dustin M. Johnson
DUSTIN M. JOHNSON, Commissioner