

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE CONSIDERATION) ORDER OPENING DOCKET;
OF THE NEW PURPA STANDARDS) ORDER SETTING
) INTERVENTION DEADLINE
) EL08-028**

On December 19, 2007, the President signed the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA) into law. The EISA includes four new federal standards to PURPA for state commissions and utilities to consider. They are (1) Integrated Resource Planning, (2) Rate Design Modification to Promote Energy Efficiency Investments, (3) Consideration of Smart Grid Investments, and (4) Smart Grid Information. The Commission must consider these standards and make a specific determination on whether their implementation is appropriate to encourage the conservation of energy supplied by electric utilities, optimal efficiencies of electric utility facilities and resources, and equitable rates for electric consumers.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL chapter 49-34A, specifically 49-34A-93, and the EISA.

At its November 25, 2008, meeting, the Commission considered this matter. Staff recommended that the Commission open a docket to consider the standards, use the December 19, 2009 deadline for all of the standards, conduct an initial paper hearing, and have Staff work with Commission Counsel to set a procedural schedule after time for intervention has run. The Commission voted unanimously to accept Staff's recommendations. It is therefore

ORDERED, that a docket is hereby opened to consider the four new PURPA standards by December 19, 2009; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that interested persons or entities may file to intervene by December 31, 2008.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 16th day of December, 2008.

<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, electronically.</p> <p>By: <u>Seldine Kolbe</u></p> <p>Date: <u>12/17/08</u></p> <p>(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Steve Kolbeck
STEVE KOLBECK, Commissioner

Dustin M. Johnson
DUSTIN M. JOHNSON, Commissioner