

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST)
 FOR AN ELECTRIC SERVICE RIGHTS)
 EXCEPTION BETWEEN XCEL ENERGY, INC.)
 AND CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE,)
 INC.)
)
)

**ORDER GRANTING
 APPROVAL OF AN
 EXCEPTION TO THE
 ASSIGNED ELECTRIC
 SERVICE TERRITORY**

EL11-011

On May 23, 2011, Xcel Energy and Central Electric Cooperative (Central) jointly filed a request for Public Utilities Commission (Commission) approval of an electric service territory exception. Pursuant to an agreement signed May 4, 2011, Central and Xcel Energy jointly agreed to allow Xcel Energy to provide three phase electric service to a grain bin site located at 23355 430th Ave, and a farmstead located at 23315 430th Ave., near Howard, SD. These service sites are located within Central's electric service territory in Miner County, South Dakota. On May 26, 2011, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of June 6, 2011, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of June 28, 2011, 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 Xcel Energy may provide electric service to the service sites located in Central's service territory. Further, the Commission finds that the exception to the assigned service territory is in the public interest and the request shall be granted in accordance with the terms of the filed Joint Request for Electric Service Territory Exception.

It is therefore

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 29th day of June, 2011.

<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><i>Jean Ardahl</i></u></p> <p>Date: <u>6-29-11</u></p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
 GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
 CHRIS NELSON, Vice Chairman