

**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 WEST RIVER)
ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION AND BLACK HILLS)
POWER)
)
)
)**

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

EL11-017

On June 23, 2011, West River Electric Association (WREA) and Black Hills Power (BHP) jointly filed a request for Public Utilities Commission (Commission) approval of an electric service territory exception. If approved, BHP will provide electric service to a City of Rapid City water reservoir located in WREA's electric service territory in Section 23, T2N, R7E, Pennington County, South Dakota. On June 30, 2011, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 15, 2011, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of July 26, 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-55. Further, the Commission finds that BHP may provide electric service to a City of Rapid City water reservoir located in WREA's electric service territory in Section 23, T2N, R7E, Pennington County, South Dakota. 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 28th day of July, 2011.

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, electronically.	
By:	<u><i>Dennis Aydale</i></u>
Date:	<u>7.28.11</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Vice Chairman