

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST FOR) APPROVAL OF AN ELECTRIC SERVICE) TERRITORY BOUNDARY AGREEMENT) BETWEEN NIOBRARA ELECTRIC) ASSOCIATION AND BLACK HILLS ELECTRIC) COOPERATIVE INC)	ORDER GRANTING APPROVAL OF ELECTRIC SERVICE TERRITORY BOUNDARY CHANGES EL12-009
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On February 1, 2012, the Commission received an electric service territory boundary agreement between Niobrara Electric Association and Black Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. This filing was submitted by Commission Staff pursuant to current efforts of the PUC to verify electric territory mapping data for conversion to electronic format and use in a Geographic Information System (GIS) database.

On February 2, 2012, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of February 17, 2012, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on February 28, 2012, the Commission considered this matter. Commission Staff requested approval of the agreement in order to update official electric service territory mapping data to accurately reflect current service territories served by the utilities. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the agreement.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over the matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-4, 49-34A-42, 49-34A-43 and 49-34A-55. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the request for approval of the agreement to update mapping data to reflect current electric service territory boundaries shared by Niobrara Electric Association and Black Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 7th day of March, 2012.

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>[Signature]</u>
Date: <u>03-07-12</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

[Signature: Chris Nelson]

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

[Signature: Kristie Fiegen]

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commission

[Signature: Gary Hanson]

GARY HANSON, Commission