

**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 DAKOTA ENERGY COOPERATIVE, ) INC. AND NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION ) DBA NORTHWESTERN ENERGY )	ORDER APPROVING ) ELECTRIC SERVICE ) TERRITORY BOUNDARY ) AGREEMENT )  EL13-031
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On September 20, 2013, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an electric service territory boundary agreement between NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy (NWE) and Dakota Energy Cooperative, Inc. (Dakota). This filing is made 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. With the assistance of the above-referenced utilities, the Commission's staff (Staff) has confirmed the service territory boundary shared by these utilities and has prepared updated mapping information. Staff requests approval of the agreement to update official mapping data to properly reflect the service territory boundaries shared by the utilities in this docket.

On September 26, 2013, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of October 11, 2013, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. On October 30, 2013, Staff filed a corrected Agreement and Exhibit A to properly reflect Dakota's corporate name. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-42, 49-34A-43 and 49-34A-55.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on November 5, 2013, the Commission considered this matter. Staff requested approval. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the agreement. 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 NWE and Dakota is hereby granted and the territory agreement is approved.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2013.

<p><b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b></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>Joy Lashley</u></p> <p>Date: <u>11.6.13</u></p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson  
CHRIS NELSON, Commission

Kristie Fiegen  
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commission