

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST)	ORDER GRANTING
FOR SERVICE RIGHTS EXCEPTION)	APPROVAL
BETWEEN LAKE REGION ELECTRIC)	OF AN ELECTRIC SERVICE
ASSOCIATION, INC. AND OTTER TAIL)	RIGHTS EXCEPTION
POWER COMPANY)	
)	EL14-091

On November 5, 2014, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a request for an electric service rights exception between Lake Region Electric Association, Inc. (Lake Region) and Otter Tail Power Company (Otter Tail). The purpose of the filing is to allow Lake Region to extend a line to provide three-phase service in Otter Tail's assigned electric service territory.

On November 6, 2014, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of November 21, 2014, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically 49-34A-42 through 49-34A-44 and 49-34A-55.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on November 25, 2014, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission's staff recommended approval of the request for an exception to the electric service territory. Finding that Lake Region's provision of three-phase electric service to the customer will avoid unnecessary duplication of facilities, provide adequate electric service to the customer affected, and promote the efficient and economical use and development of Lake Region and Otter Tail's electric systems and is in the public interest, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the exception to Otter Tail's and Lake Region's assigned service territories. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the request for approval of an exception to the assigned service territories of Otter Tail and Lake Region is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 10th day of December, 2014.

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>Joy Lashley</u>
Date: <u>12 10 14</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner