

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST BY SF )  
HOUSING MINISTRY, LLC FOR A VARIANCE TO )  
THE SEPARATE METERING REQUIREMENT IN )  
ARSD 20:10:26:03(4) FOR A 39 UNIT MULTI- )  
FAMILY HOUSING STRUCTURE IN SIOUX )  
FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA )**

**ORDER GRANTING MASTER  
METERING VARIANCE**

**EL15-041**

On October 1, 2015, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from SF Housing Ministry, LLC requesting a variance from the individual metering requirement contained in ARSD 20:10:26:03(4). SF Housing Ministry, LLC plans to build a 39 unit multi-family housing structure designed to provide affordable housing to the community of Sioux Falls. Under the lease structure on this project, the landlord is going to pay all utilities. Therefore, pursuant to ARSD 20:10:26:05, SF Housing Ministry, LLC is requesting a master metering variance for electrical and gas services.

On October 8, 2015, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of October 23, 2015, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. On October 14, 2015, Commission Staff sent a copy of the individual metering variance request to Northern States Power Co. dba Xcel Energy and MidAmerican Energy Co. in accordance with ARSD 20:10:26:06. On October 19, 2015, notice of the master metering variance request was published in the Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Argus Leader newspaper in accordance with ARSD 20:10:26:06. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on November 12, 2015, the Commission considered this matter. After discussing the filing, the Commission deferred the docket. On November 19, 2015, SF Housing Ministry, LLC filed a request for a continuance. At its regularly scheduled meeting on November 24, 2015, the Commission approved the continuance.

On February 3, 2016, SF Housing Ministry, LLC filed a letter that provided its responses to Commission Staff's data requests and clarified that the multi-family housing structure will have electric service only. On February 24, 2016, Commission Staff filed a Staff Memorandum.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A, particularly 49-34A-4 and 49-34A-27, and ARSD Chapter 20:10:26, particularly 20:10:26:03, 20:10:26:04, 20:10:26:05, and 20:10:26:06.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on February 26, 2016, the Commission again considered this matter. Finding that SF Housing Ministry, LLC's request for a variance set forth compelling reasons for granting the variance, including cost effectiveness, energy efficiency, and energy conservation effects, the Commission unanimously voted to grant the request.

It is therefore

ORDERED, that SF Housing Ministry, LLC's request for a master metering variance for a 39 unit multi-family housing structure in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 3rd day of March, 2016.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
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 or by mail.
By: <u>Karen E. Cremer</u>
Date: <u>3/03/16</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson  
CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen  
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Commissioner