

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST ) FOR SERVICE RIGHTS EXCEPTION ) BETWEEN NORTHWESTERN ) CORPORATION DBA NORTHWESTERN ) ENERGY AND CENTRAL ELECTRIC ) COOPERATIVE, INC. )	ORDER GRANTING APPROVAL ) OF AN ELECTRIC SERVICE ) RIGHTS EXCEPTION )  EL16-024 )
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On July 11, 2016, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a request from NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern) for a service rights exception to allow Central Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Central Electric) to provide single phase electrical service not to exceed 50 kVA to a new house located in the assigned territory of NorthWestern. NorthWestern's closest suitable line is located ½ mile east and 2 miles south from the point of service for the new house. Central Electric's closest suitable line is located ½ mile to the west of the point of service of the new house. This service exception is only for single phase electrical service not to exceed 50 kVA to the new house.

On July 14, 2016, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 29, 2016, 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 August 2, 2016, the Commission considered this matter. Staff recommended approval of the requested service rights exception. Finding that Central Electric's provision of single phase electrical service not to exceed 50 kVA to a planned residence located within the NorthWestern service territory will avoid unnecessary duplication of facilities, provide adequate electric service to the customer affected at a lesser cost, and promote the efficient and economical use and development of NorthWestern's and Central Electric's electric systems, and that the exception is in the public interest, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the exception to NorthWestern's and Central Electric's assigned service territories. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Request for Approval of an Electric Service Rights Exception between NorthWestern and Central Electric is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 5<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2016.

<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>Adam DeHueck</u></p> <p>Date: <u>8/5/16</u></p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson  
CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiogen  
KRISTIE FIOGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Commissioner