



Gary Hanson, Chair  
Chris Nelson, Vice Chair  
Commissioner - Appointment  
Pending

## **SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

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July 6, 2011

Patricia Van Gerpen  
Executive Director  
SD Public Utilities Commission  
500 E. Capitol Ave.  
Pierre, SD 57501

### **Re: Electric Service Territory Change between Clay-Union Electric Corporation and Northwestern Corporation**

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

In September of 2010, South Dakota Public Utilities Commission Staff (Staff) received a request to determine the exact location of a service territory boundary between Clay-Union Electric Corporation (Clay-Union) and NorthWestern Corporation (NorthWestern). Upon inspection, the request was satisfied, but Staff noticed a discrepancy in the record. The original territory agreement between Clay-Union and NorthWestern included a legal agreement and accompanying map. Unfortunately, the two were in conflict.

Staff worked with Clay-Union and NorthWestern in determining the correct boundary, drafted a contract amendment to clarify the discrepancy, and circulated the amendment for signatures. Staff considers this amendment to be a change in electric service territory, and as such, the amendment requires Commission approval. Therefore, Staff requests the Commission approve the electric service territory change.

Sincerely,

Brian Rounds  
Staff Analyst  
SD Public Utilities Commission