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## STAFF MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** COMMISSIONERS AND ADVISORS  
**FROM:** LORENA REICHERT & KRISTEN EDWARDS  
**RE:** EL19-021 - In the Matter of the Request for Approval of an Electric Service Territory Boundary Agreement between Southeastern Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy  
**DATE:** May 23, 2019

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### BACKGROUND

Staff has prepared a chronology to help explain what has happened to-date regarding this GIS mapping project and this specific docket. This is not an exhaustive list, but these points were ones of note to staff:

- On May 29, 2008, the Commission sent a letter to regulated electric utilities explaining the PUC's new GIS mapping project and that they would be contacted for information.
- As a follow-up, the Commission held a public input meeting on Nov. 23, 2010, noticed to all utilities and held at the Capitol.
- On Nov. 17, 2014, Commission Staff Analyst David Henry sent utilities draft boundary legal descriptions of remaining boundaries to be converted and approved, asking for agreements to be filed before Dec. 19, 2014.
- On Jan. 2, 2018, Commission Staff Analyst Lorena Reichert spoke with Xcel's Eric Pauli by phone to request review and comments of the shapefile online.
- On Feb. 27, 2018, Xcel's Mr. Pauli responded to staff questions on the shapefile and said that as a starting point, it looked good.
- On **March 7, 2019**, Commission staff sent Xcel and Southeastern its up-to-date review of the legal description and maps, requesting follow-up by **March 22, 2019**.
- On **March 8, 2019**, Commission staff called Southeastern's Brad Schardin and he confirmed receipt of the materials. Mr. Schardin expressed concern about reviewing the materials by March 22. Staff reiterated the importance of providing comments by March 22.
- On **March 12, 2019**, Ms. Reichert called Mr. Pauli and he confirmed receipt of the materials. Staff reiterated that Xcel should provide comments by March 22.

- On **March 25, 2019**, Mr. Pauli emailed back that he had not yet looked at the documents and it would be a little while before he could work on them.
- On **March 28, 2019**, Ms. Reichert asked by email to Xcel and Southeastern to review the documents, relaying that staff will open a docket on **May 1** and place it on the **May 28 commission meeting agenda** for approval.
- On March 29, 2019, Southeastern's John Euchner requested information on Order 8157; and staff provided the information.
- On April 7, 2019, Southeastern provided notes, comments, and questions to staff.
- On April 8, 2019, Mr. Pauli provided notes, comments, and questions to staff.
- On April 18, 2019, Ms. Reichert responded to Mr. Pauli's questions and provided requested reference material.
- On April 24, 2019, Ms. Reichert forwarded to Xcel proposed changes from Southeastern.
- On April 25, 2019, Ms. Reichert answered Mr. Pauli's questions about Section 12, T100N, R50W, including City of Sioux Falls plat information and Public Land Survey System plats.
- On April 29, 2019, Mr. Pauli emailed that he agreed to the proposed changes by Southeastern.
- On **May 1, 2019**, Ms. Reichert requested the docket be opened, and included revisions companies agreed to. **The letter opening the docket explained it would be heard at the May 28 Commission Meeting whether or not the companies had an agreement signed.**
- On May 1, 2019, Ms. Reichert emailed the companies with updated maps and a red-lined version of the changes.
- On **May 2, 2019**, Mr. Pauli called saying he was surprised by the **May 28 Commission meeting agenda mentioned in the docket opening letter. Ms. Reichert reiterated that the docket would be on the May 28 agenda whether or not the companies signed an agreement. She explained that the companies could explain any outstanding concerns to the Commissioners at that time.**
- On May 6, 2019, Mr. Pauli responded to Ms. Reichert and Southeastern with comments and revisions to the legal description.
- On May 7, 2019, Staff responded with a revised legal description.
- On May 7, 2019, Mr. Pauli responded with small edits.
- On May 7, 2019, Staff agreed with Mr. Pauli's edits.

- On May 7, 2019, Staff provided the legal description with edits since the May 1 filing and **provided an Agreement** to the parties to sign. The agreement mentions service rights exceptions and the grandfather provision in SDCL 49-34A-42.
- On May 9, 2019, Southeastern provided typos and clarifying questions to Staff.
- On May 13, 2019, Staff responded to Southeastern, clarifying remaining questions.
- On May 13, 2019, Staff provided the legal description with typos corrected since May 7, and filed the document in the docket.
- On May 14, 2019, Mr. Pauli emailed relaying that the legal description looked good, asked about next steps, and asked for a final agreement to sign.
- On May 14, 2019, Staff re-sent the agreement provided May 7 to both parties.
- On May 15, 2019, Staff called Mr. Pauli to request any outstanding questions. Mr. Pauli said he had none and was waiting for Southeastern to sign before sending the agreement to the proper Xcel official for signature.
- On May 21, 2019, the agenda for the May 28 Commission meeting was posted.