

**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 CHARLES MIX ) ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC. )	ORDER GRANTING APPROVAL OF AN ELECTRIC SERVICE RIGHTS EXCEPTION  EL21-010
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On March 17, 2021, the Commission received a joint request for approval of service rights exception between NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern) and Charles Mix Electric Association, Inc. (Charles Mix). The Agreement will allow NorthWestern to provide electric service in the assigned territory of Charles Mix. NorthWestern intends to service pathway lighting in Marty, South Dakota, and would prevent multiple meter charges and extra expense involved in the extra equipment for the customer.

On March 18, 2021, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of March 31, 2021, 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 April 1, 2021, the Commission considered this matter. Finding that the service rights exception will avoid unnecessary duplication of facilities, provide adequate electric service to the customer affected, promote the efficient and economical use and development of NorthWestern and Charles Mix's electric systems, and that the exception to the parties' assigned service territories is in the public interest, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the requested service rights exception. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the requested electric service rights exception is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 7<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021.

<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>Adam deHueck</u>
Date: <u>4/7/21</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson  
CHRIS NELSON, Chairperson

Kristie Fiegen  
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Commissioner