



March 17, 2021

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 E Capitol
Pierre, SD

RE: EL-___ - Service Territory Exception

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

The purpose of this letter is to request South Dakota Public Utilities Commission ("*Commission*") approval of an exception to the territorial service boundaries pursuant to SDCL § 49-34A-55. Charles Mix Electric Association, Inc. ("*the Association*") has agreed to allow NorthWestern Corporation doing business as NorthWestern Energy ("*NorthWestern*") to provide electrical service to street lights as identified in Exhibit A ("*Service*"), said Service being located in the assigned service territory of the Association.

Streetlights for a pathway have been installed by a contractor at the request of the Yankton Sioux Tribe. The Yankton Sioux Tribe will own the lights. As shown on Exhibit A, the meter to serve the streetlights is in NorthWestern's service territory. Additionally, seven streetlights and two Pedestrian Crossing Beacons are also located in NorthWestern's service territory. Fifteen streetlights are located in the Association service territory. The Association considered the load and determined that it was unfair for the Yankton Sioux Tribe to pay two meter charges and also the expense involved in the extra equipment to be installed. In the interest of the Yankton Sioux Tribe, the Association has agreed to release this load to NorthWestern.

The Yankton Sioux Tribe is the landowner for this site. The landowner is aware of and is in support of the service territory exception as described in the agreement. The location for the territory exception is illustrated in attached Exhibits "B", "C" and "D".

Included in this filing is the email from the Association recognizing the territory exception and an email from the Yankton Sioux Tribe in support of the territory exception. Also enclosed is the "*Consent and Agreement for Electric Service*" signed by NorthWestern and the Association, which becomes effective upon receipt of Commission approval.

NorthWestern requests approval on less than 30 days-notice so the lights can be used as soon as possible. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Jeff J. Decker
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