

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST) FOR APPROVAL OF AN AMENDED ELECTRIC) SERVICE TERRITORY BOUNDARY) AGREEMENT BETWEEN BLACK HILLS) ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., AND WEST) RIVER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE))	ORDER GRANTING APPROVAL OF AMENDED ELECTRIC SERVICE TERRITORY BOUNDARY AGREEMENT EL22-020
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On July 29, 2022, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a joint request for Approval of an Amended Electric Service Territory Boundary Agreement (Agreement) from Black Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. (BHEC) and West River Electric Association, Inc. The Agreement modifies the electric service territory boundary lines located in section 34 of Township 1 North, Range 8 East and in section 9 of Township 1 South, Range 9 East that were set in docket EL12-053. The purpose of the Agreement is to prevent the duplication of facilities between the two utilities.

On August 4, 2022, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of August 19, 2022, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. On August 30, 2022, the Company responded to Commission staff's data request.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-42, 49-34A-43, and 49-34A-55.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on September 27, 2022, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff recommended approval of the Agreement. Finding that the Agreement will avoid the unnecessary duplication of facilities, provide adequate electric service to the affected customers, and promote the efficient and economical use and development of the electric systems of the utilities, and, further finding that the Agreement is in the public interest, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the Agreement. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the joint request for Approval of an Amended Electric Service Territory Boundary Agreement between Black Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. and West River Electric Association, Inc. is hereby approved..

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 20th day of September 2022.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
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>9/29/22</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

GARY HANSON, Commissioner