

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

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| IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN AMENDED ELECTRIC SERVICE TERRITORY BOUNDARY AGREEMENT BETWEEN WEST RIVER ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC. AND BLACK HILLS POWER, INC. DBA BLACK HILLS ENERGY |) | ORDER GRANTING APPROVAL OF AMENDED ELECTRIC SERVICE TERRITORY BOUNDARY AGREEMENT |
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| |) | EL23-024 |

On September 1, 2023, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a joint request for Approval of an Amended Electric Service Territory Boundary Agreement (Agreement) from West River Electric Association, Inc. and Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy. The Agreement modifies the electric service territory boundary lines located in section 31 of Township 5 North, Range 6 East in Meade County, specifically Lot A of the SE1/4SE1/4. The Agreement is based on consideration of both companies' infrastructure placement and the cost implications associated with the line extension.

On September 7, 2023, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of September 22, 2023, 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, 49-34A-43, and 49-34A-55.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on October 10, 2023, 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 West River Electric Association, Inc. and Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy is hereby approved.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 12th day of October 2023.

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| 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><i>Kristie Fiegen</i></u> |
| Date: <u>12 October 2023</u> |
| (OFFICIAL SEAL) |

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Chairperson

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner