

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

<p>IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN ELECTRIC SERVICE TERRITORY EXCHANGE AGREEMENT BETWEEN WEST RIVER ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC. AND BLACK HILLS POWER, INC. DBA BLACK HILLS ENERGY</p>	<p>))))))))))</p>	<p>ORDER GRANTING APPROVAL OF ELECTRIC SERVICE TERRITORY EXCHANGE AGREEMENT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EL24-010</p>
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On March 21, 2024, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a joint request for approval of an Electric Service Territory Exchange Agreement between West River Electric Association, Inc. (WREA) and Black Hills Power, Inc., dba Black Hills Energy (BHE). The Joint Request asks the Commission to approve a mutually agreed upon revision to the electric service territory boundary in Sections 32 and 33 of Township 2 North, Range 8 East in Pennington County. The purpose of the electric service territory exchange is to avoid the duplication of facilities for a new development, which is the expansion of the Shepherd Hills Subdivision located in northeast Rapid City.

On March 28, 2024, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of April 12, 2024, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. On April 29, 2024, WREA responded to 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 May 8, 2024, 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 Electric Service Territory Exchange 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 10th day of May 2024.

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: 

Date: 10 May 2024

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


KRISTIE FIEGEN, Chairperson


GARY HANSON, Commissioner


CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner