

November 18, 2024

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen  
Executive Director  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
Capitol Building, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
500 E. Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

RE: Service Territory Exchange Agreement Docket No. EL24-\_\_\_\_\_

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Enclosed for filing, please find a copy of the mutually agreed upon Service Territory Exchange Agreement between West River Electric Association ("West River Electric Association") and Black Hills Power, Inc., d/b/a Black Hills Energy ("Black Hills Power"). This agreement seeks to exchange territory in Sections 4 and 22 of Township 2 North, Range 7 East, in Meade County and Pennington County, South Dakota, respectively. For the reasons set below, West River Electric Association and Black Hills Power request that the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") approve the attached executed Service Territory Exchange Agreement and allow the territory boundary lines to be modified.

### **Background**

Black Hills Power is developing a power generating facility (currently designated at "Lange 2") on property within West River Electric Association's service territory and Black Hills Power desires for the facility to reside in its designated service territory. Black Hills Power and West River Electric Association have reviewed shared territory boundaries and agree to adjust the service territory lines defined and depicted in our "Electric Service Territory Boundary Agreement (EL18-044) between Black Hills Energy and West River Electric Association" dated October 17, 2018, on file with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

Below are the descriptions of the territory boundary lines being modified. Additional details are provided in Exhibits A and B of the service territory exchange agreement.

Service territory being transferred to Black Hills Energy:

- The Northwest  $\frac{1}{4}$  and west  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the Northeast  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 22, Township 2 North, Range 7 East.

Service territory being transferred to West River Electric Association:

- The West  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Section 4, Township 2 North, Range 7 East.

There are currently 2 customers of Black Hills Power that will be in the new territory for West River Electric. Those 2 customers will be grandfathered in and continue to be served by Black Hills Power. These customers are depicted in Exhibit C.

West River Electric Association and Black Hills Power respectfully request that the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission approve this territory exchange agreement and approve the updates to the territory boundaries.

Please contact Jason Keil at [Jason.Keil@blackhillsenergy.com](mailto:Jason.Keil@blackhillsenergy.com) or (605) 721-1502 if you have any questions concerning this filing.

Signature:

Richard Johnson:   
CEO/General Manager of West River Electric Association

Signature:

Michael Pogany:   
General Manager of Black Hills Power Inc. d/b/a Black Hills Energy