

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
BY WESTERN MINNESOTA MUNICIPAL)
POWER AGENCY AND MISSOURI RIVER)
ENERGY SERVICES FOR A FACILITY)
PERMIT FOR AN ENERGY COVERSION)
FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES)
INCLUDING AN ELECTRIC)
TRANSMISSION LINE IN DEUEL COUNTY,)
SOUTH DAKOTA)**

**ORDER ASSESSING
FILING FEE; ORDER
AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO
CONSULTING CONTRACTS**

EL25-028

On August 7, 2025, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application for an Energy Facility Permit from Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency and Missouri River Energy Services (Applicants). Applicants propose to construct an energy conversion facility and electric transmission line in Scandinavia Township, Deuel County, South Dakota, known as the Toronto Power Plant (Project). The Project as proposed consists of a 145 MW dual fuel power plant and a 345 kV generation-tie transmission line. The power plant consists of four combustion turbine-generator sets, a turbine hall building, diesel fuel truck unloading facilities, and other associated facilities. The 345 kV generation-tie transmission line will be approximately 4.9 miles long and will connect the power plant with the existing Astoria 345 kV substation. Associated facilities will include natural gas piping anticipated to be less than 450 feet along the southwest side of the proposed power plant site. The Project is expected to be in commercial operation in 2029. Applicants estimate the total construction cost to be \$378 million. Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-12, the minimum filing fee is \$20,000 and the maximum calculated fee is \$389,000.

On August 11, 2025, the Commission issued a Notice of Application; Order for and Notice of Public Input Meeting; Notice of Opportunity to Apply for Party Status. On August 14, 2025, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of October 6, 2025, to interested persons and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-41B, specifically 49-41B-12, and ARSD Chapter 20:10:22.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on August 26, 2025, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission voted unanimously to assess Applicants a filing fee up to \$389,000 for actual expenses incurred in processing this Application and to give the executive director authority to enter into consulting contracts. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Applicants shall be assessed a filing fee in an amount up to \$389,000 for actual expenses incurred in processing this Application. It is further

ORDERED, that the executive director shall have the authority to enter into necessary consulting contracts.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 28th day of August 2025.

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: Jenni L. Furst

Date: 08/28/2025

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner