

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)	ORDER GRANTING PARTY
BASIN ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE)	STATUS
FOR A CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FOR 23)	
MILES OF 230 KV ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION)	EL01-025
LINE AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES)	
)	

On October 11, 2001, Basin Electric Power Cooperative (Basin Electric) submitted to the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) an application for a permit to construct transmission facilities as defined at SDCL 49-41B-2.1(2). According to the application, these facilities consist of an asynchronous tie that would connect the eastern and western transmission grids near Rapid City, South Dakota. The rating of the tie would be in the range of 100 to 300 million volt-amperes, depending on the capabilities of the associated transmission system. The project is known as the Rapid City Tie Project and includes: approximately 23 miles of 230 kilovolt transmission line; a line terminal at the western edge of the project referred to as the South Rapid City Substation; an asynchronous tie converter station four miles southeast of the South Rapid City Substation; and a line terminal bay at the existing New Underwood Substation, at the eastern edge of the project. The project is located completely in Pennington County, South Dakota.

On November 1, 2001, the Commission issued its Notice of Application; Order for and Notice of Public Input Hearing; Notice of Opportunity to Apply for Party Status in this docket. The notice provided that pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-17 and ARSD 20:10:22:40, each municipality, county, and governmental agency in the area where the facility is proposed to be sited; any non-profit organization, formed in whole or in part to promote conservation or natural beauty, to protect the environment, personal health or other biological values, to preserve historical sites, to promote consumer interests, to represent commercial and industrial groups, or to promote the orderly development of the area in which the facility is to be sited; or any interested person, may be granted party status in this proceeding by making written application to the Commission on or before December 10, 2001.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of December 12, 2001, the Commission reviewed applications for party status received from Andrea Andersen, Rapid City, South Dakota and David S. Lamb, Rapid City, South Dakota, property owners in the affected area. The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-41B, specifically 49-41B-17 and further finds that Andrea Andersen and David S. Lamb's applications for party status shall be granted. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Andrea Andersen and David S. Lamb shall, hereafter, be considered parties in this matter.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 20th day of December, 2001.

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, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.

By: Melaine Kolbo

Date: 12/21/01

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner