

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING FOR)	ORDER APPROVING
APPROVAL OF CHANGES TO ASSIGNED)	TERRITORIAL TRANSFER
SERVICE AREAS DUE TO THE MERGER OF)	DUE TO MERGER
MCCOOK ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.)	
INTO SOUTHEASTERN ELECTRIC)	EL06-003
COOPERATIVE, INC.)	

On January 18, 2006, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a request from Southeastern Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Southeastern) for approval of the transfer of existing territorial agreements of McCook Electric Cooperative, Inc. (McCook) to Southeastern due to merger. On June 20, 2005, Southeastern and McCook signed Articles of Merger. McCook was merged into Southeastern effective January 1, 2006. According to the filing, "[t]his request meets the requirements set forth in SDCL 49-34A-55:

elimination or avoidance of unnecessary duplication of facilities, providing adequate electric service to all areas and customers affected and, the promotion of the efficient and economical use and development of the electric system."

On January 31, 2006, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the matter. Commission Staff recommended approval.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically 49-34A-42 and 49-34A-55. Further, the Commission finds that the proposed territorial transfer will avoid the unnecessary duplication of facilities, provide adequate electric service to all areas and customers affected, and promote the efficient and economical use and development of the electric systems of Southeastern and McCook. Finally the Commission finds that the approval of the request is in the public interest and the request shall be granted. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that the request for approval of the territorial transfer is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 10th day of February, 2006.

<p>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>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.</p> <p>By: <u><i>Delaine Kelbo</i></u></p> <p>Date: <u>2/10/06</u></p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Robert K. Sahr
ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman

Dustin M. Johnson
DUSTIN M. JOHNSON, Commissioner

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner