

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST FOR) ORDER GRANTING APPROVAL
A SERVICE RIGHTS EXCEPTION BETWEEN) OF AN ELECTRIC SERVICE
WHETSTONE VALLEY ELECTRIC) RIGHTS EXCEPTION
COOPERATIVE, INC. AND OTTER TAIL POWER)
COMPANY)**

EL17-043

On October 10, 2017, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a Petition from Whetstone Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Whetstone) and Otter Tail Power Company (Otter Tail) for a service rights exception. The customer is requesting single phase service to a tile pump located in Otter Tail's service territory. Whetstone can provide service to the tile pump using its facilities approximately 100 feet away. Otter Tail has facilities available approximately 1,500 feet from the service location. The customer will be responsible for the cost to extend service. Otter Tail shall retain the right to serve all other customers and facilities within its assigned service area.

On October 12, 2017, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of October 27, 2017, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically 49-34A-42 through 49-34A-44 and 49-34A-55.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on November 7, 2017, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff recommended granting approval of the requested service rights exception. Finding that the service rights exception will avoid unnecessary duplication of facilities, provide adequate electric service to the customer affected, promote the efficient and economical use and development of Otter Tail's and Whetstone's electric systems, and that the exception to the parties' assigned service territories is in the public interest, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the requested service rights exception. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Petition of Whetstone and Otter Tail for a service rights exception is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 15th day of November, 2017.

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: <u>Karen E. Cremer</u>
Date: <u>11/15/17</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Chairperson

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner