

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST) ORDER GRANTING APPROVAL
FOR SERVICE RIGHTS EXCEPTION) OF AN ELECTRIC SERVICE
BETWEEN NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION) RIGHTS EXCEPTION
DBA NORTHWESTERN ENERGY AND)
DAKOTA ENERGY COOPERATIVE INC.) EL19-017**

On April 25, 2019, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing requesting approval of a service rights exception between NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern) and Dakota Energy Cooperative Inc. (Dakota Energy). The parties jointly filed a Consent and Agreement for Electric Service which would allow Dakota Energy to provide single-phase electric service to a property within the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 26, Township 111 North, Range 62 West 5th P.M., Beadle County, South Dakota, located in NorthWestern's territory.

On May 2, 2019, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of May 17, 2019, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. On May 29, 2019, NorthWestern responded to Commission staff's data request.

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 June 11, 2019, 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 NorthWestern and Dakota Energy'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 requested electric service rights exception is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 13th day of June 2019.

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| 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. Bremer</u> |
| Date: <u>06/13/19</u> |
| (OFFICIAL SEAL) |

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner