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

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST APPROVAL FOR OF AN **AMENDED** ELECTRIC SERVICE TERRITORY BOUNDARY AGREEMENT BETWEEN BLACK HILLS POWER, INC. DBA BLACK HILLS ENERGY AND BLACK HILLS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

ORDER GRANTING APPROVAL OF AMENDED **ELECTRIC SERVICE** TERRITORY BOUNDARY **AGREEMENT** 

EL24-001

On January 26, 2024, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a Joint Request for Approval of Amended Electric Service Territory Boundary between Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy (BHP) and Black Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Black Hills Electric Cooperative). The Joint Request asks the Commission to approve a mutually agreed upon revision to the electric service territory boundary, where Lot 1 of North Park Ranch Subdivision in Section 9 of Township 6S, Range 4E would be transferred to Black Hills Electric Cooperative's service territory. The purpose of the electric service territory revision is to prevent the unnecessary duplication of facilities and to promote the efficient and economical development of the electric system since Black Hills Electric Cooperative has an existing line on Lot 1 of North Park Ranch Subdivision.

On February 1, 2024, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of February 16, 2024, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listsery. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. On February 14, 2024, BHP filed responses to Staff's data requests.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-42, 49-34A-43, and 49-34A-55.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on March 12, 2024, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff recommended approval of the Agreement. Finding that the Agreement will avoid the unnecessary duplication of facilities, provide adequate electric service to the affected customers, and promote the efficient and economical use and development of the electric systems of the utilities, and, further finding that the Agreement is in the public interest, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the Agreement. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the joint request for Approval of an Amended Electric Service Territory Boundary Agreement between Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy and Black Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. is hereby approved. It is further,

ORDERED, that Amended Exhibit B filed on February 14, 2024, is the revised legal description approved by this Order.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 10 day of March 2024.

## 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 ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Chairperson

CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner