

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY BIG ) STONE CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA AND ) WHETSTONE VALLEY ELECTRIC ) COOPERATIVE, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF ) ELECTRICAL SERVICE AREA BOUNDARIES ) )	ORDER APPROVING CHANGES IN SERVICE AREA  EL99-002
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On January 25, 1999, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a request from the city of Big Stone City, South Dakota and Whetstone Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc., Milbank, South Dakota (parties) seeking Commission approval of a Boundary Agreement relative to the south boundary dividing the electric utility customers of the parties. The request reflects a change back to the original boundaries which had been changed several years ago although the agreement showing such changes had never been filed with the Commission nor approved by the Commission. On February 16, 1999, the parties filed a Stipulation Between Big Stone City, South Dakota and Whetstone Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc., which corrected the legal description contained in the Boundary Agreement pertaining to the south boundary of the Big Stone City electric service area.

On February 17, 1999, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the parties' request for approval of the Boundary Agreement to recognize the original assigned service areas. Commission Staff recommended approval.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-4, 49-34A-42, and 49-34A-55. Further, the Commission finds that the change in service area to reflect the original boundaries 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 seeking approval of a Boundary Agreement relative to the south boundary dividing the electric utility customers for Big Stone City and Whetstone Valley is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1999.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
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: <u><i>Alldine Kelso</i></u>
Date: <u>3/1/99</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
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JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

  
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PAM NELSON, Commissioner