

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**Northern States Power / Nodak Electric Cooperative
Thompson, North Dakota
Service Area Agreement**

Case No. PU-20-37

**Northern States Power / Nodak Electric Cooperative
Thompson, North Dakota
Public Convenience & Necessity**

Case No. PU-20-41

**ORDER ON ELECTRIC SERVICE AREA AGREEMENT AND CERTIFICATE OF
PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY**

March 18, 2020

Preliminary Statement

On January 31, 2020, Northern States Power Company (NSP) and Nodak Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Nodak) filed a joint application for approval of a Service Area Agreement to establish service areas and designate service locations to be served by NSP and Nodak within or around the city of Thompson, North Dakota. NSP further requested issuance of a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing it to extend service to locations within the NSP service area set forth in the agreement.

On February 19, 2020, the Commission issued a Notice of Filing and Notice of Opportunity for Consolidated Hearing, which provided until March 13, 2020 for receiving written comments or hearing requests. No response has been received. The notice identified the issues to be considered in this proceeding as whether the Service Area Agreement complies with section 49-03-06 of the North Dakota Century Code, and whether the approval of the Service Area Agreement and resulting certificate issuance are compatible with the public interest.

Discussion

The applicants contend that the agreement will:

1. Avoid misunderstanding and disagreement over areas to be served by each party,
2. Accomplish the legislative intent of N.D.C.C. section 49-03-06 to encourage harmony and operational efficiency among electric providers, promote safety, discourage unreasonable duplication of electric facilities, assure adequate and reliable electric service and provide antitrust immunity to the electric providers, and

3. Provide both parties with equitable participation in the provision of electric distribution service in areas within and around the city of Thompson during the term of the agreement.

Having considered this matter the Commission finds that the Service Area Agreement complies with N.D.C.C. section 49-03-06 and that approval of the Service Area Agreement and resulting certificate issuance are compatible with the public interest. Therefore, the Commission issues the following:

Order

The Commission Orders:

1. The electric service area agreement filed jointly by Northern States Power Company and Nodak Electric Cooperative, Inc. is APPROVED.
2. Northern States Power Company is issued Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 5937 authorizing the provision of electric service to customers within the agreed upon service area around the city of Thompson.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Julie Fedorchak
Commissioner



Brian Kroshus
Chairman



Randy Christmann
Commissioner

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

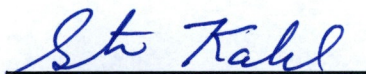
Certificate Number 5937

This is to certify that public convenience and necessity require, and permission is granted for Northern States Power Company to serve Johnson's Second Addition in Section 30, Township 150N, Range 50W, Grand Forks County, North Dakota.

This certificate is conditioned upon Northern States Power Company securing the franchise or other authority of the proper municipal or other public authority for the exercise of these rights and privileges.

ATTEST:

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Executive Secretary


Commissioner