

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**  
**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Northern States Power / Cass County Electric Coop  
Fargo, North Dakota  
Service Area Agreement**

**Case No. PU-24-181**

**ORDER**

**September 27, 2024**

**Preliminary Statement**

On March 3, 2024, Northern States Power (NSP) and Cass County Electric Cooperative (Cass Electric) filed an application for approval of a Service Area Agreement (SAA) to designate service locations to be served by NSP and Cass Electric within and around the city of Fargo, North Dakota.

On June 5, 2024, the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing, which provided until July 19, 2024, for receiving written comments or hearing requests. No response was received. The notice identified the issues to be considered in the proceeding:

1. Whether the SAA complies with North Dakota Century Code § 49-03-06.
2. Whether approval of the SAA and resulting certificate of public convenience and necessity issuance is compatible with the public interest.

**Discussion**

The applicants contend that the agreement will:

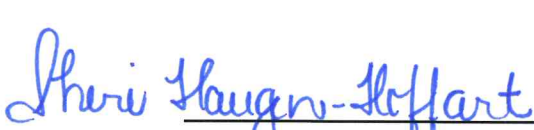
1. Avoid misunderstanding and disagreement over areas to be served by each party,
2. Accomplish the legislative intent of N.D.C.C. section 49-03-06 to encourage harmony and operational efficiency among electric providers, promote safety, discourage unreasonable duplication of electric facilities, assure 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 Fargo 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 the Electric Service Area Agreement filed jointly by Northern States Power and Cass County Electric Cooperative is APPROVED.

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**



**Sheri Haugen-Hoffart**  
Commissioner



**Randy Christmann**  
Chair



**Julie Fedorchak**  
Commissioner