

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  WINTERSET MUNICIPAL UTILITY AND FARMERS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.	DOCKET NO. SPU-06-19
--	----------------------

**ORDER GRANTING PETITION FOR MODIFICATION  
OF SERVICE AREA BOUNDARIES**

(Issued January 19, 2007)

On December 26, 2006, Winterset Municipal Utility (Winterset Municipal) and Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Farmers Electric), filed a joint petition for modification of electric service area boundaries pursuant to Iowa Code § 476.25(2). A map illustrating the service area agreement between Winterset Municipal and Farmers Electric was attached to the joint petition as Exhibit A. A joint amendment to the petition was filed on January 5, 2007. No objections or other responses to the petition were filed.

Winterset Municipal and Farmers Electric have agreed to modify their exclusive service territory boundaries in Madison County, Iowa. The following service territory is to be transferred from Winterset Municipal to Farmers Electric:

All that part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NW $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ) of Section 19, Township 76 North, Range 27 West of the 5<sup>th</sup> P.M., located in Madison County, Iowa, lying north and west of the waterline of the body of water located in the Northwest

Quarter (NW  $\frac{1}{4}$ ), Northwest Quarter (NW  $\frac{1}{4}$ ), Northeast Quarter (NE  $\frac{1}{4}$ ) known as Cedar Lake.

In support of the petition, Winterset Municipal and Farmers Electric state that a new subdivision is being developed on the north shore of Cedar Lake. The utilities further state that the physical location of Cedar Lake makes the present boundary impractical and that the proposed boundary change will prevent unnecessary duplication of facilities and promote the economical and efficient development of both utilities. The joint amendment to the petition filed on January 5, 2007, notes that there are no current customers located in the service territory that is proposed to be exchanged.

Iowa Code § 476.25 (2005) provides in pertinent part:

Contracts between electric utilities to designate service areas and customers to be served by the electric utility or for the exchange of customers between electric utilities, when approved by the board, shall be valid and enforceable and shall be incorporated into the appropriate exclusive service areas established pursuant to subsection 1 of this section. The board shall approve a contract if it finds that the contract will eliminate or avoid unnecessary duplication of facilities, will provide adequate electric service to all areas and customers affected, will promote the efficient and economical use and development of the electric systems of the contracting electric utilities, and is in the public interest.

The Board will grant the joint petition for modification of service area boundaries. Winterset Municipal and Farmers Electric have alleged facts that establish the proposed modification is in the public interest, will prevent unnecessary duplication of facilities, provide adequate electric service to all customers affected,

and will promote the efficient and economical use of electrical systems, pursuant to Iowa Code § 476.25.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

The joint petition for modification of electric service area boundaries filed by Winterset Municipal Utility and Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc., on December 26, 2006, as amended on January 5, 2007, is granted, subject to complaint or investigation.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ John R. Norris

/s/ Curtis W. Stamp

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper  
Executive Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2007.