FILED
April 25, 2024
INDIANA UTILITY
REGULATORY COMMISSION

#### STATE OF INDIANA

#### INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT PETITION OF BOONE COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION AND THE CITY OF LEBANON UTILITIES PURSUANT TO IND. CODE § 8-1-2.3-6 FOR APPROVAL OF CHANGES TO THE SERVICE AREA WITHIN U.S.G.S. FACET MAP M-15-1 IN BOONE COUNTY, INDIANA

**CAUSE NO. 46054** 

# <u>VERIFIED JOINT PETITION</u> TO MODIFY SERVICE AREA BOUNDARIES

Boone County Rural Electric Membership Corporation ("Boone REMC") and The City of Lebanon, Indiana by its municipally owned electric utility ("Lebanon Utilities") ("Joint Petitioners"), jointly petition and request the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission ("Commission") to approve Joint Petitioners' agreement to modify portions of their assigned service area boundaries located on U.S.G.S. Facet Map M-15-1 in Boone County, Indiana, and state in support of this request that:

- 1. Joint Petitioner Boone REMC is a rural electric membership corporation organized and existing under the Indiana Rural Electric Membership Corporation Act, which supplies electricity to its members in multiple counties in Indiana, including Boone County. Boone REMC's principal office is located at 1207 Indianapolis Avenue, Lebanon, IN 46052.
- 2. Joint Petitioner City of Lebanon Utilities is a municipally owned utility duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Indiana, with its principal office in the

City of Lebanon, Boone County, Indiana. The City of Lebanon owns and operates Lebanon Utilities, which includes an electric utility furnishing retail electric service residential, commercial, industrial and other customers within its assigned service area, and has the legal authority to do so.

- 3. Each Joint Petitioner is an "electric supplier" as defined by Ind. Code § 8-1-2.3-2(b). The provisions of Ind. Code § 8-1-2.3-1 *et. seq.*, and in particular Ind. Code § 8-1-2.3-6(a)(2), apply to the subject matter of this Joint Petition. The Commission has jurisdiction over the Joint Petitioners and the subject matter of this proceeding.
- 4. On December 17, 1983 the Commission established the original assigned service boundaries on U.S.G.S. Facet Map M-15-1 between Boone REMC and Lebanon Utilities in Cause No. 36299-S216(X).
- 5. The proposed boundary changes located on U.S.G.S. Facet Map M-15-1 are identified on the attached map marked for purposes of identification as Exhibit A. The requested boundary change will result in the red crosshatched area of Lebanon Utilities' service territory, approximately 18.68 acres marked "To Boone REMC", to become part of Boone REMC's service area, and the two (2) red crosshatched areas of Boone REMC's service area, approximately 77.97 acres marked as "To Lebanon Utilities A" and 0.189 acres marked "To Lebanon Utilities B", to become part of Lebanon Utilities' service territory. The proposed boundary line changes will not require a change in the electricity supplier for existing customers of either utility.
- 6. Lebanon Utilities and Boone REMC have not exchanged any assets in relation to this territory change.

- 7. Modification of the assigned service area boundaries as proposed herein will not cause the duplication of facilities, waste of materials or resources, or uneconomic, inefficient, or inadequate electric service to the public, consistent with Ind. Code § 8-1-2.3-6(a)(2). The proposed modification of the 18.68 acre area marked "To Boone REMC" will impact the future service of one existing Boone REMC customer who intends to expand its facility into the 18.68 acre area to become part of Boone REMC's territory, and it will be more cost effective and efficient for Boone REMC to provide service to that customer's current and expanded facility. There are no existing customers in the 77.97 acre area marked "To Lebanon Utilities A", and this proposed modification will not impact service to any existing customers. There is one existing user of electricity in the 0.189 acre area marked "To Lebanon Utilities B"—the Prairie Heights Lift Station which is owned and operated by Lebanon Utilities and has been receiving and will continue to receive electric service from Lebanon Utilities.
- 8. The name and address of the attorney for Boone REMC in this matter is Erin Borissov, Parr Richey Frandsen Patterson Kruse LLP, 251 North Illinois Street, Suite 1800, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204, <a href="mailto:eborissov@parrlaw.com">eborissov@parrlaw.com</a>, 317-269-2500, who is duly authorized to accept service of papers in this Cause on behalf of Boone REMC.
- 9. The name and address of the attorney for Lebanon Utilities in this matter is Jeffrey S. Jacob 1620 WEST OAK ST., Suite 200, Zionsville, IN 46077, jacob@hhlaw-in.com (317) 344-2111 who is duly authorized to accept service of papers in this Cause on behalf of Lebanon Utilities.
- 10. In accordance with Ind. Code § 8-1-2.3-6(a)(2), Joint Petitioners will publish notice of this change in a newspaper of general circulation in Boone County, Indiana and to their individual company websites located at <a href="https://www.bremc.com/legal-">https://www.bremc.com/legal-</a>

<u>notices/</u> and <u>https://lebanon-utilities.com/electricity/</u>. See <u>Exhibit B</u> for a copy of said notice.

- 11. Joint Petitioners will submit proof of publication of notice and a Proposed Order promptly following publication of the notices.
- 12. Pursuant to 170 IAC 1-1.1-9, Joint Petitioners hereby provide notice to this Commission that the Parties reasonably anticipated to participate in this proceeding, Boone REMC and Lebanon Utilities and the Office of Utility Consumer Counselor ("OUCC"), are in agreement with the following Proposed Procedural Schedule:

April 25, 2024: Joint Petitioners will file their Petition with

the Commission.

May 2, 2024: (A week following the filing of the Petition)

The latest date by which Joint Petitioners will publish legal notice of the service territory boundary changes in a newspaper of general circulation in Boone County, Indiana. See Exhibit B for a copy of the Legal Notice.

The earlier of May 22 or Twenty (20) days after publication of the legal notice:

Joint Petitioners will file their Submittal of Proposed Form of Order and Proof of Publication. If after publication of the Legal Notice and twenty (20) days have passed and no affected electricity customer has requested a hearing, Joint Petitioners advise they waive an evidentiary hearing concerning this

Petition.

May 27, 2024, 2024: (3 business days following the above

**deadline date**) The latest date by which the OUCC may prefile Testimony and Exhibits, if any, or request an evidentiary hearing in

this cause of action.

June 19, 2024, 2024: The end target date by which the parties

request the issuance of the Commission's

Final Order concerning this Petition.

13. The technical representative for Boone REMC is Allen Jones,

ajones@bremc.com (765) 891-9004. The technical representative for Lebanon Utilities is

Jeffrey Greeno, Lebanon Utilities Electric Operations Manager who can be reached at

greeno@lebanon-utilities.com (765) 485-3012.

WHEREFORE, Boone REMC and Lebanon Utilities respectfully request that the Commission, pursuant to Ind. Code § 8-1-2.3-6(a)(2), after twenty (20) days and if no affected electricity customer requests a hearing, enter an order in this proceeding, without a hearing, permanently approving the changes to the service area boundaries on U.S.G.S. Facet Map M-15-1 identified as Exhibit A, as proposed in this Joint Petition and grant such other and further relief to the Joint Petitioners as may be appropriate.

# Respectfully submitted,

# PARR RICHEY FRANDSEN PATTERSON KRUSE LLP

By: /s/ Erin C. Borissov
Erin C. Borissov
Counsel for Joint Petitioner Boone REMC

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Telephone: (317) 269-2500 Fax: (317) 269-2514 Email: eborissov@parrlaw.com

Respectfully submitted,

HACKMAN HULETT LLP

By: /s/ Jeffrey S. Jacob

Jeffrey S. Jacob

Counsel for Joint Petitioner
City of Lebanon Utilities

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Telephone: (317) 344-2111
Fax: (317) 344-2126
Email: jacob@hhlaw-in.com

# **VERIFICATION**

I, Bill Conley, affirm under penalties of perjury, that the foregoing representations contained in this Verified Joint Petition to Modify Service Area Boundaries that pertain to Boone County Rural Electric Membership Corporation are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Dated this 19 day of April, 2024.

Bill Conley

President and Chief Executive Officer

Boone REMC

# VERIFICATION

I, Matthew Gentry, Mayor City of Lebanon Indiana, affirm under penalties of perjury, that the foregoing representations contained in this Verified Joint Petition to Modify Service Area Boundaries that pertain to The City of Lebanon, Indiana by its municipally owned electric utility are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Dated this 23 day of April, 2024.

Matthew Gentry, Mayor The City of Lebanon, Indiana

I, Edward Basquill, GM of the City of Lebanon Utilities, affirm under penalties of perjury, that the foregoing representations contained in this Verified Joint Petition to Modify Service Area Boundaries that pertain to The City of Lebanon, Indiana by its municipally owned electric utility are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Dated this 23 day of , 2024.

Edward Basquill, GM City of Lebanon Utilities

on behalf of its municipally owned electric utility

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that on April 25, 2024, a copy of the foregoing Verified Joint Petition to Modify Service Area Boundaries was served by hand delivery and/or electronic mail upon the following:

Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor PNC Center 115 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 South Indianapolis, IN 46204

Email: <a href="mailto:infomgt@oucc.in.gov">infomgt@oucc.in.gov</a>

Jeffrey S. Jacob (#20483-06) HACKMAN HULETT LLP 1620 West Oak Street Suite 200 Zionsville, Indiana 46077

Email: jacob@hhlaw-in.com

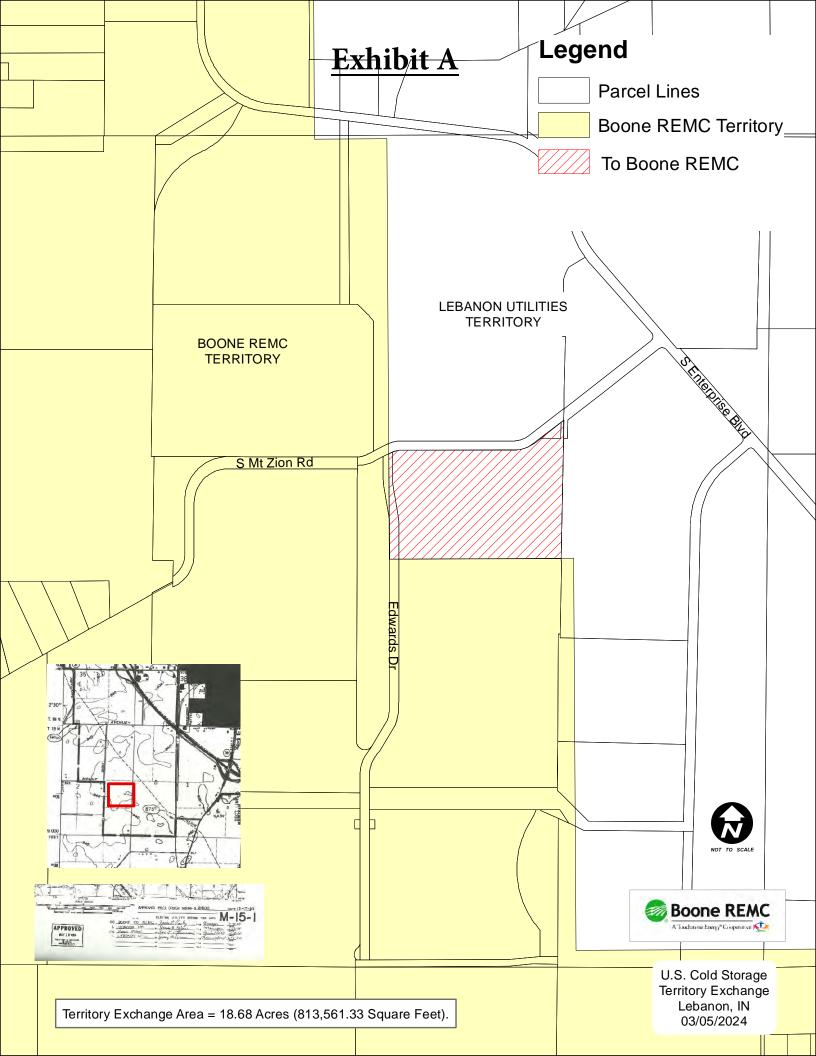
/s/ Erin C. Borissov

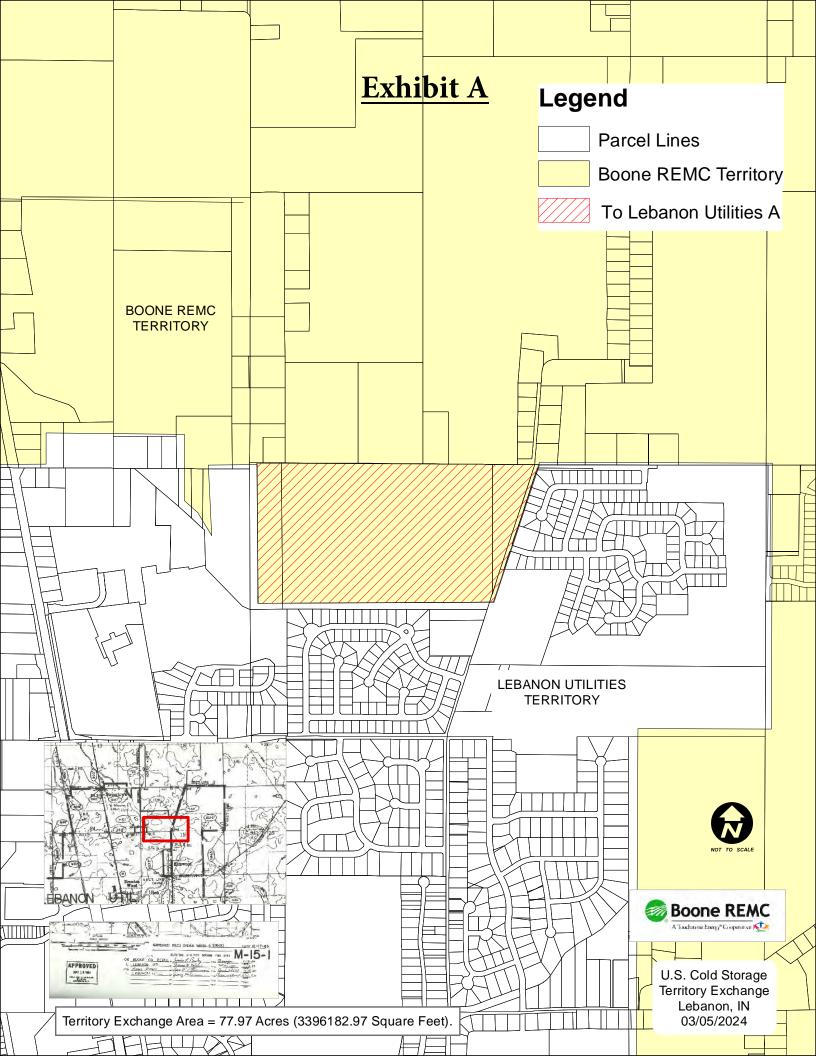
Erin C. Borissov Counsel for Joint Petitioner Boone REMC

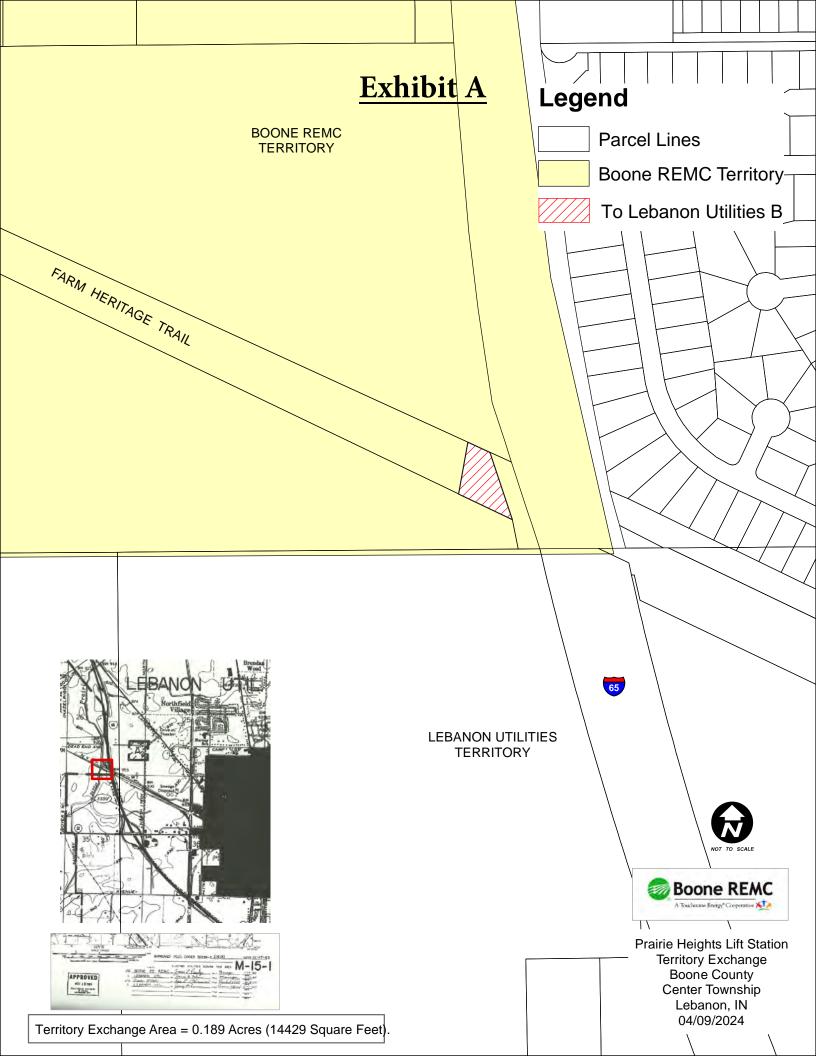
Erin C. Borissov (27745-49) Parr Richey Frandsen Patterson Kruse LLP 251 N. Illinois Street Suite 1800 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Telephone: (317) 269-2500 Fax: (317) 269-2514

Email: eborissov@parrlaw.com







## **EXHIBIT B**

# LEGAL NOTICE BOONE REMC AND THE CITY OF LEBANON, INDIANA BY ITS MUNICIPALLY OWNED ELECTRIC UTILITY NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE CHANGE IN BOUNDARY LINES

Boone County Rural Electric Membership Cooperative, Inc. ("Boone REMC") and The City of Lebanon, Indiana by its municipally owned electric utility ("Lebanon Utilities") hereby give notice that on April 25, 2024, a Joint Petition was filed with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission for approval to modify service area boundaries between Boone REMC and Lebanon Utilities associated with an area in Center Township of Boone County, Indiana located on U.S.G.S. Facet Map M-15-1 in Boone County, Indiana pursuant to Ind. Code § 8-1-2.3-6.

**Boone REMC**By: Bill Conley