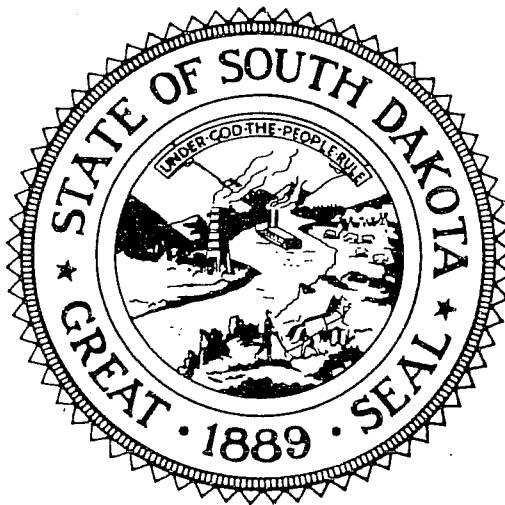


**South Dakota**  
**Public Utilities Commission**



***Annual Report***

**FY85**

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Public Utilities Commission  
State of South Dakota  
500 East Capitol  
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

Commissioners:  
Kenneth Stofferahn  
Jeff Solem  
Dennis Eismach

Executive Secretary  
Roberta Lovald  
(605) 773-3201

November 13, 1985

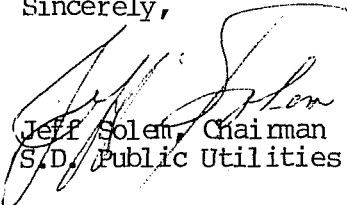
The Honorable William J. Janklow  
Governor of South Dakota  
State Capitol Building  
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Governor Janklow:

In conformity with South Dakota Codified Law 49-1-13, the Public Utilities Commission hereby respectfully submits its annual report for the time period of Fiscal Year 1985. This report of its activities contains the facts, statements and explanations deemed necessary by the Commission to fully disclose its transactions and conduct during this time period.

Generally, this report conveys the various activities, functions and accomplishments of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission. It includes, but is not limited to, a complete financial report of receipts and expenditures, including a list of the utilities regulated by the Commission and the total amount of fees and assessments paid by each. It also includes a list of the applications, subject and disposition of each docket number assessed by the Commission.

Sincerely,

  
Jeff Solem, Chairman  
S.D. Public Utilities Commission

JS:jld

Enclosure

## FORWARD

Created by State Statute, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission is an independent quasi-judicial regulatory body of three members elected state-wide to six year terms. The jurisdiction, powers and duties of the Commission are delegated to it by the South Dakota Legislature. The Legislature has charged the Commission with the responsibility of regulating the six investor-owned electric companies, four natural gas companies and three telephone companies as well as motor carriers doing business within the State of South Dakota. The Commission is also responsible for the licensing of grain elevators, warehouses and general storage facilities. In addition, the requests for construction of energy conversions or transmission facilities must be reviewed and approved by the Commission before such projects can begin.

The three elected public utilities commissioners administer and supervise all functions of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission. As a Commission it organizes by selecting a chairman, vice chairman and associate commissioner.

The Commission is organized into 3 divisions: Administration, Transportation and Fixed Utilities.

## Brief Biographies of Commissioners

The following brief biographical narratives are for the three individual Commissioners who have served or are serving on the Commission for the time period of Fiscal Year 1985:

### Kenneth Stofferahn

Assumed Commissionership January, 1979, first term ended January 7, 1985; re-elected to a second term which ends January 1991. Democrat, born April 5, 1934. Received B.S. Degree in Agriculture from South Dakota State University, Brookings; past experience includes farming; member of West Central Board of Education (President) 1974, 1976-1978; and member of South Dakota House of Representatives, 1974-1976. Elected to serve District 1, which comprises the counties of Lake, Moody, McCook, Minnehaha, Charles Mix, Douglas, Hutchinson, Turner, Lincoln, Bon Homme, Yankton, Clay and Union; address is Pierre, South Dakota. Served as Chairman of the Commission from January 5, 1983 to July 1, 1985. Assumed the Vice Chairmanship July 1, 1985.

### Jeff Solen

Assumed Commissionership January 2, 1981, term ends January, 1987. Republican, born August 4, 1921. Received B.A. Degree from George Washington University, Washington, D.C.; past experience includes radio - TV station owner and broadcaster twenty-five years and Mayor of the City of Aberdeen, 1972-1980. Elected to serve District 2, which comprises the counties of McPherson, Edmunds, Brown, Marshall, Day, Roberts, Grant, Faulk, Spink, Clark, Codington, Hamlin, Deuel, Hyde, Hand, Beadle, Kingsbury, Brookings, Buffalo, Brule, Jerauld, Aurora, Sanborn, Davison, Miner and Hanson; address is Pierre, South Dakota. Served as Vice Chairman of the Commission from January 1985 to July 1, 1985. Assumed the Chairmanship July 1, 1985.

### Dennis Eisnach

Assumed Commissionership January 4, 1983, term ends January, 1989. Democrat, born January 2, 1936. Attended South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, Rapid City, and the University of South Dakota, Vermillion; past experience includes South Dakota Highway Patrol, 1960-1980 - Superintendent, 1974-1980. Elected to serve District 3, which comprises the counties of Harding, Perkins, Corson, Campbell, Butte, Meade, Ziebach, Dewey, Walworth, Potter, Sully, Hughes, Lawrence, Pennington, Haakon, Stanley, Jones, Lyman, Custer, Fall River, Shannon, Jackson, Bennett, Mellette, Todd, Tripp and Gregory. Address is Pierre, South Dakota.

## HISTORY OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

The present day South Dakota Public Utilities Commission traces its historical roots to 1885 when the Dakota Territorial Legislature established the Board of Railroad Commissioners for the regulation of service and facilities of rail carriers. This territorial statute was amended by the first South Dakota State Legislature in its 1889 session. This amendment significantly increased the duties and powers of this three member board. The Board consisted of three members appointed by the Governor to serve for two years or at the pleasure of the Governor.

In 1890 the Legislature placed the regulation of grain warehouses under the jurisdiction of the Board of Railroad Commissioners. That law as amended through the years is still within the areas of the Commission's current statutory responsibilities.

Then in 1897 the Legislature enacted a new law which made the Board of Railroad Commissioners an elective office with six year terms of office, one Commissioner to be elected each two years. This statute change was apparently intended to encourage a diversity of experience and tenure by the members and to make the Board responsible directly to the people.

In 1907 a law was enacted which created a telephone commission composed of the State Treasurer, State Auditor and a Telephone Commissioner. This Telephone Commissioner was given limited jurisdiction over telephone and telegraph companies. The Telephone Commissioner was to be appointed by the Governor for a period of two years. Then, in the session of 1909, the Legislature repealed this 1907 law which abolished the Telephone Commission at the same time giving jurisdiction over the rates and services of telephone and telegraph companies to the Board of Railroad Commissioners. Along with this transfer of responsibility the Legislature created comprehensive regulatory law which, with some legislative changes through the years, is currently the law relating to rates and service of telephone companies. Then in 1923 the supervision and control of motor carriers was placed under the jurisdiction of the Board of Railroad Commissioners with limited duties and powers. In the 1925 legislative session a comprehensive Motor Carrier Act was enacted under which the supervision or regulation of motor carriers is now conducted. Also during the 1925 legislative session, a law was passed which placed the property (general) storage warehouses under the supervision of the Board of Railroad Commissioners. Prior to this legislative change, that responsibility had been assigned to the Secretary of State.

On July 1, 1939 the name of the Board of Railroad Commissioners was changed by law to the Public Utilities Commission. This name change was reflective of both the evaluation of various responsibilities and the regulatory trends of other states throughout the nation.

In 1975, the Legislature created state law which gave the Public Utilities Commission jurisdiction over the regulation of natural gas and electric utilities. Currently the Commission has regulatory authority over the following four investor-owned natural gas companies: Iowa Public Service, Minnegasco, Montana-Dakota Utilities and Northwestern Public Service. The Commission also currently has regulatory authority over the following six investor-owned electric utility companies: Black Hills Power and Light, Iowa Public Service, Montana-Dakota Utilities, Northern States

Power, Northwestern Public Service and Otter Tail Power. In 1976 the Legislature exempted the Rural Electric Associations from this regulation. Then the 1979 Legislature exempted the Rural Telephone Associations from Public Utilities Commission regulation.

On July 1, 1980 the municipal telephone systems were also removed from Commission regulation. Then on July 1, 1982 the independent telephone companies were removed from Commission rate regulation. The Public Utilities Commission has rate jurisdiction over three telephone companies: Northwestern Bell, Bison State and AT&T Communications Mid West.

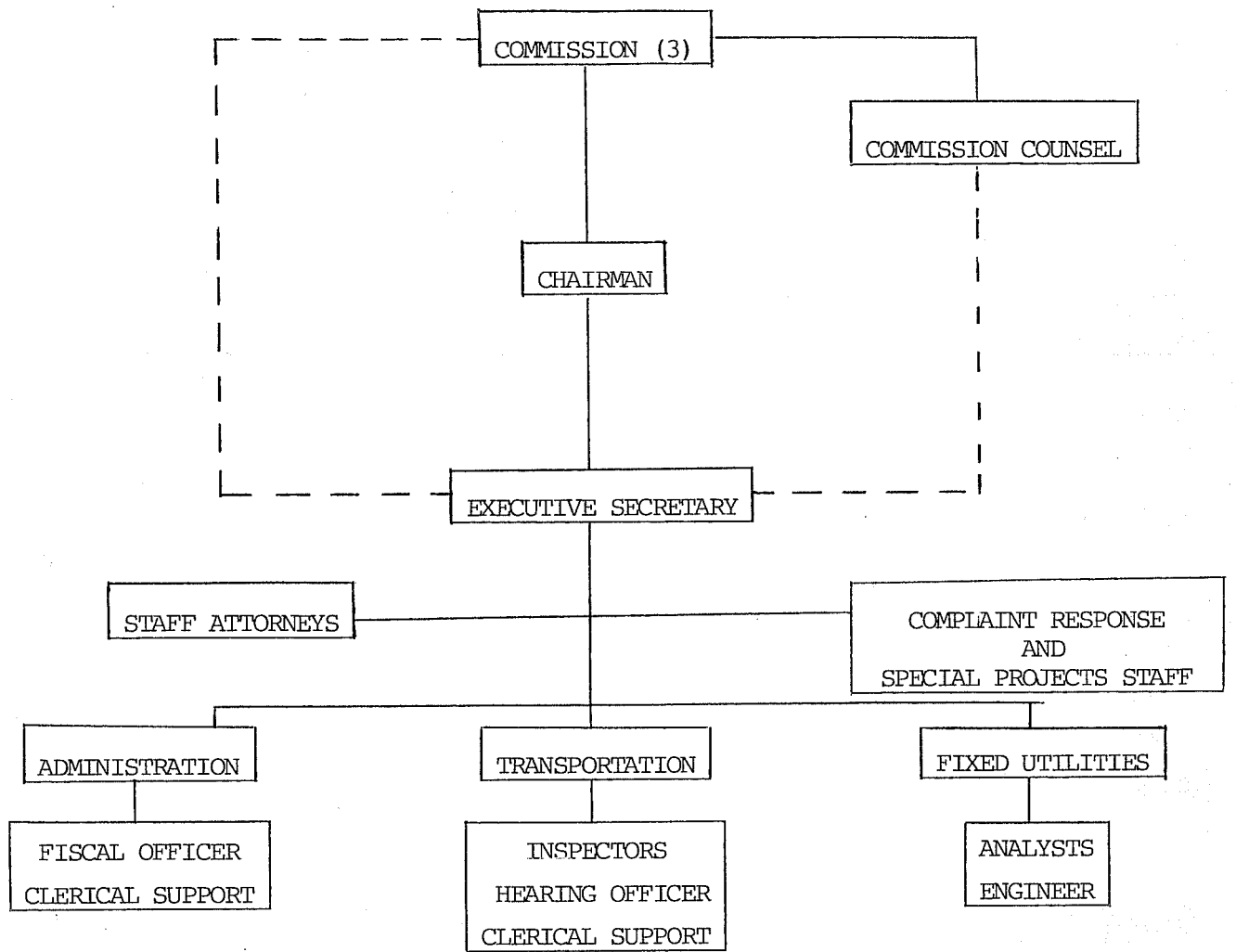
On December 29, 1981, President Reagan signed into law the Record Carrier Competition Act of 1981, Public Law 97-130(RCCA). This new federal statute preempted state jurisdiction over record carrier services, thus removing rate regulation of telegraph companies.

The state laws applicable to the Public Utilities Commission are found in Volume 14B, Title 49 of the South Dakota Codified Laws. These laws govern the regulation of motor carriers, telephone and telegraph, public warehouses, public grain warehouses, grain dealers, energy facilities and transmission lines, and investor-owned electric and natural gas companies. From 1974 to the present time the Public Utilities Commission has promulgated rules which cover the above listed utilities.

The Commission functions under direct general fund and other fund appropriations of the South Dakota Legislature but it is charged with the responsibility of collecting certain fees for licenses, permits and charges including special hearing fund assessments in the fixed utilities division.

The special hearing fund assessments consist of: a 1.5 mil tax assessed on the total intrastate gross receipts received from retail customers within the State of South Dakota, which funds the day to day work of the Fixed Utilities Division; and a \$75,000 assessment of the utility filing a specific rate case, in which the requested rate increase exceeds \$500,000, to be used only for expenses incurrent in that specific case.

A complete financial report of these fees and funds are included elsewhere in this report.







ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

The Administrative Division of the Public Utilities Commission provides support services for the Commissioners and the entire Commission staff, and is generally responsible for the administrative operations of the Public Utilities Commission.

The Executive Secretary, as head of this division, coordinates various staff activities of the agency, arranges hearings and conferences, and is responsible for the implementation of Commission policy, as well as the supervision of the Directors of the Fixed Utilities Division and Transportation Division.

The Commission attorney, as part of this division, reports to the Commissioners directly, and represents the Commission in matters before the State and Federal Courts; as well as preparing all Commission orders and reports to the Commissioners on various issues.

COMMISSION ORDERS ISSUED

|                         |    |
|-------------------------|----|
| Electric                | 21 |
| Natural Gas             | 11 |
| Telephone               | 27 |
| Transmission & Pipeline | 14 |
| Radio Paging            | 25 |

APPEAL PROCEEDINGS

The following rate case proceedings are decision of the Commission that have been appealed to the court system, with their current status noted:

Docket F-3442, Northwestern Bell Telephone Company

In the Matter of the Application of Northwestern Bell Telephone Company for an Order of the Commission Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates and Charges, Which Will Provide it with a Just and Reasonable Level of Earnings for its Intrastate Telephone Services Furnished Within the State of South Dakota.

Filed on 5/13/83  
PUC decision 11/10/83  
Appealed to Circuit Court  
Circuit Court Findings of Fact and Conclusions of law 8/8/84  
Appealed to Supreme Court  
Briefs filed with Supreme Court  
Oral Argument 5/19/85

Application filed by Northwestern Bell for an increase in intrastate telephone rates. Northwestern Bell appealed the Commission decision to the Circuit Court, Sixth Judicial Circuit of South Dakota. Of thirteen issues

which were appealed, the Circuit Court reversed the Commission on four issues. The Commission subsequently appealed two of these issues (average cash balance and inflation adjustment) to the South Dakota Supreme Court. At this time no decision has been issued.

Docket F-3520, Northwestern Bell Telephone Company Rate Increase

In the Matter of the Application of Northwestern Bell Telephone Company for an Increase in its Intrastate Rates in South Dakota.

Filed on 2/1/85  
PUC decision 8/29/85  
Appealed to Circuit Court

Application filed by Northwestern Bell for an increase in intrastate telephone rates. Northwestern Bell appealed the Commission decision to the Circuit Court, Sixth Judicial Circuit of South Dakota. Appealed issues include the portion of the Commission Order compelling Northwestern Bell to produce certain documents and the issues of inflation adjustment and average cash balances in working capital which are presently the issues before the South Dakota Supreme Court in Docket F-3442.

MISCELLANEOUS PROCEEDINGS

Docket F-3371, MANDAN 500 kv Transmission Line

In the Matter of the Application of Nebraska Public Power District for a Permit to Construct and Operate the Proposed MANDAN Nominal 500 kv Transmission Facility.

Filed on 1/14/81  
Commission decision issued 1/14/82  
Appealed to Circuit Court  
Circuit Court decision issued 9/30/82  
Appealed to Supreme Court  
Supreme Court decision 8/8/84  
Circuit Court Order for Remand issued 10/4/84  
Commission Order Granting Voluntary Dismissal of Application 5/28/85

Application filed by Nebraska Public Power District to construct the MANDAN power line across South Dakota. The Commission denied the permit to allow construction. The decision was appealed to the Circuit Court, Sixth Judicial Circuit. The Circuit Court reversed the Commission decision, but affirmed a number of conditions the Commission would have imposed on the line if the permit had been granted. All parties appealed to the Supreme Court of South Dakota. The Supreme Court, in its August 8, 1984 decision, affirmed that a construction permit should be granted since a statute relied upon by the Commission was unconstitutional. The Court also remanded two other issues (local land use regulation and general variance) back to the Commission

for further study. Nebraska Public Power District withdrew their application and the case was dismissed.

Docket F-3436, Electro-Craft Declaratory Ruling

In the Matter of the Petition for Declaratory Ruling Filed by Electro-Craft, Inc.

Filed on 3/9/83  
PUC decision 12/8/83  
Circuit Court decision 5/21/84  
Appealed to Supreme Court  
Briefing complete  
Supreme Court Opinion 3/6/85

Electro Craft sought a declaratory ruling from the Commission as to whether Golden West Telephone Cooperative must apply to the Commission before commencing radio paging service in the Rapid City area, an area which is outside Golden West's service territory. The Commission ruled that it has jurisdiction to regulate telephone cooperatives which attempt to operate radio paging services outside their assigned territories. Golden West appealed to the Circuit Court, Sixth Judicial Circuit. The Circuit Court reversed the Commission, holding that while the Commission has jurisdiction over radio common carriers, it has no authority over telephone cooperatives providing radio paging services. The Commission appealed to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court affirmed the PUC decision on March 6, 1985.

Docket F-3456, Northern States Power Company Declaratory Ruling

In the Matter of the Petition for Declaratory Judgment Filed by Northern States Power Company.

Filed on 8/15/83  
PUC decision issued 10/9/84  
Appealed to Circuit Court 11/6/84  
Stipulation and Settlement 2/28/85

Northern States Power sought a declaratory ruling as to whether it could refuse electric service to a wife to past debts incurred while living with her husband. The Commission ruled that NSP could not refuse service. NSP appealed the ruling to the Circuit Court, Sixth Judicial Circuit. The Commission entered into an agreement with NSP in which the Commission would vacate its order and NSP would withdraw its appeal.

Docket F-3475, Northwestern Bell Telephone Company Shell Phone

In the Matter of the Purchase of Telephone Shells by Northwestern Bell Telephone Company Customers.

Filed on 4/4/84  
Commission decision issued 1/2/85

This action arose from a Commission investigation initiated in February 1984, concerning the purchase of telephone shells by Northwestern Bell Telephone Company customers. In FY1984 the Commission received a total of 439 complaints by telephone customers who, prior to November 17, 1980, thought they were purchasing the entire telephone when, in accordance with the tariff filed with the Commission, the inside working components remained the property of the telephone company. Pursuant to a Commission Order dated January 2, 1985, Northwestern Bell began to reimburse customers for those inside components at the rate of \$55 per telephone. As of September 5, 1985, \$324,720 was paid out to 4,740 persons.

Four lawsuits were filed by various parties attacking the Commission's jurisdiction:

- a. Northwestern Bell Telephone Company v. The Public Utilities Commission of the State of South Dakota and its Duly Elected Board of Commissioners consisting of Kenneth Stofferahn, Jeff Solem and Dennis Eisnach (Hughes County, Sixth Judicial Circuit Civ. 84-322).

A Writ of Prohibition action was filed on October 5, 1984 by Northwestern Bell seeking to prevent further Commission proceedings. The Sixth Circuit issued an order on October 18, 1984 affirming the Commission's jurisdiction.

- b. State of South Dakota ex rel Corinne Johnson, Jeff Johnson, Elmer Olson and Mary Jane Olson vs. The Public Utilities Commission of South Dakota; Kenneth Stofferahn, Jeff Solem and Dennis Eisnach; Northwestern Bell Telephone Company and AT&T Information Systems. (Supreme Court of South Dakota #14856).

On January 18, 1985, Plaintiffs filed with the South Dakota Supreme Court an application to commence an original proceeding generally requesting the Court to prevent the Commission, Northwestern Bell Telephone Company and AT&T Information Systems from implementing the settlement reached between the Commission and Northwestern Bell. Plaintiffs' application was denied by the Supreme Court on January 23, 1985.

- c. State of South Dakota ex rel Corinne Johnson, Jeff Johnson, Elmer Olson and Mary Jane Olson vs. The Public Utilities Commission of South Dakota; Kenneth Stofferahn, Jeff Solem and Dennis Eisnach; and Northwestern Bell Telephone Company. (Hughes County, Sixth Judicial Circuit, Civ. 85-27).

On January 25, 1985, Plaintiffs filed an application for a writ of certiorari with the Sixth Judicial Circuit, Hughes County. On February 26, 1985, the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court, Hughes County, Honorable Robert A. Miller presiding, entered an order quashing

the writ of certiorari. On March 8, 1985, Appellants appealed the order quashing the writ of certiorari to the South Dakota Supreme Court. Briefs have been filed and the Commission is awaiting a date for oral arguments.

- d. Elmer Olson, Mary Jane Olson, Sheila Paschke, f/k/a Sheila Schrier, Corinne Johnson and Jeff Johnson, on their own behalf and on behalf of all others similarly situated, vs. Northwestern Bell Telephone Company; Kenneth Stofferahn, Jeff Solem and Dennis Eisnach as the duly elected members of the Public Utilities Commission of South Dakota. (United States District Court, District of South Dakota Central Division, Civ. 85-3020).

On April 1, 1985, Appellants filed a Complaint in the United States District Court for the District of South Dakota, Central Division. This action alleged violation of Appellants' civil rights and constitutional rights pursuant to 42 USC 1983. Following a hearing on April 15, 1985, the Court issued its Memorandum Opinion and Order on May 7, 1985 dismissing Appellants' action.

Docket F-3513, Heartland Complaint

In the Matter of the Complaint of Black Hills Power and Light Company Against Heartland Consumers Power District With Regard to Electric Service to Ellsworth Air Force Base.

Filed on 11/29/84  
Commission decision issued 2/4/85

This complaint arises from a territorial dispute between two utilities. Black Hills Power & Light has served Ellsworth Air Force Base for many years. In 1984, Ellsworth awarded a one year contract to Heartland for electric service. According to SDCL 49-34A-58 and 59, such disputes must be determined by the Commission. The controversy in federal court arises from the impact which the Commission's decision may have on federal military contracting procedures.

- a. Black Hills Power and Light Company vs. Casper W. Weinberger, as Secretary of the Department of Defense; THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, an agency of the United States of America; RICHARD D. RASMUSSEN, as contracting officer for Ellsworth Air Force Base, a defense installation under the control of the Department of Defense; HEARTLAND CONSUMERS POWER DISTRICT, a subdivision of the State of South Dakota; WEST RIVER ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC., a South Dakota rural electric cooperative; and the PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, a regulatory commission of the State of South Dakota, (Civ. No. 85-5031).

On February 25, 1985, Black Hills Power and Light Company (BHP&L) initiated an original action in United States District Court, District of South Dakota, Western Division. The PUC was sued in case the Court ordered relief which would have to go through the Commission. Pursuant to Federal Rule 12(a), the Commission served its Answer to the Complaint on March 18, 1985.

- b. In the Matter of the Complaint of Black Hills Power and Light Company Against Heartland Consumers Power District With Regard to Electric Service to Ellsworth Air Force Base, (Lake County, Fourth Judicial Circuit Court, Civ. 85-30).

On February 28, 1985, Heartland Consumers Power District appealed the Commission's decision. Removed to Southern Division of the United States District Court and assigned case Civ. 85-4068.

- c. In the Matter of the Complaint of Black Hills Power and Light Company Against Heartland Consumers Power District With Regard to Electric Service to Ellsworth Air Force Base, (Hughes County, Sixth Judicial Circuit Court, Civ. 85-70).

On March 1, 1985, West River Electric Association, Inc. appealed the Commission's decision. Removed to Central Division of the United States District Court, consolidated with Civ. 85-71 and assigned case Civ. 85-3015.

- d. In the Matter of the Complaint of Black Hills Power and Light Company Against Heartland Consumers Power District With Regard to Electric Service to Ellsworth Air Force Base, (Hughes County, Sixth Judicial Circuit Court, Civ. 85-71).

On March 5, 1985, the United States, on behalf of Ellsworth Air Force Base (EAFB) appealed the Commission's decision. Removed to Central Division of the United States District Court, consolidated with Civ. 85-70 and assigned case Civ. 85-3015.

- e. United States of America vs. The Public Utilities Commission of the State of South Dakota, (Civ. 85-5064).

On April 19, 1985, the United States filed suit against the Commission seeking to prevent the Commission from enforcing its decision in F-3513. By Order dated May 8, 1985, this case was consolidated with Civ. 85-3015, Civ. 85-4068 and Civ. 85-5031.

After the cases were removed and consolidated in federal court, various motions have been filed. The principal ones are:

1. Motion to Dismiss
2. Motion for Summary Judgment

Those motions have been briefed and the Commission is awaiting a disposition.

STATUTORY CHANGES:

At the direction of the Executive Secretary, Commission staff members prepare legislative proposals and actions which have been recommended by the Commission. during the 1985 Legislative Session, the State Legislature has enacted the following changes in Title 49 of the South Dakota Codified Laws:

Effective July 1, 1985 (1985 Session)

- Senate Bill No. 69 (SDCL 49-1A-5) clarified the date upon which the annual intrastate gross receipts tax levied upon public utilities becomes due and payable.
- Senate Bill No. 84 (SDCL Chapter 49-28) generally clarified and reorganized the provisions relating to motor carriers. the act also: defined "common carrier"; exempted wreckers and tow trucks from Commission regulation; authorized the Commission to place conditions and limitations on motor carrier permits; and authorized the issuance of a single trip permit to interstate charter bus carriers.
- Senate Bill No. 85 (SDCL Chapters 49-42 through 49-45) generally clarified the provisions relating to public warehouses, grain dealers and weightmasters. The act also specifically: clarified the penalties for unlicensed operation, imposed requirements for ordering warehouse receipts, repealed provisions relating to public terminal grain warehouses, modified the bonding requirements for grain dealers, authorized the Commission to prescribe the terms of grain credit sale contracts and conferred law enforcement powers on PUC inspectors.



FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The Administrative Division has the responsibility of compiling all of the Commission's fiscal information used in the budgeting and accounting functions. The financial reports of expenditures and revenues in the various program budgets follow.

The Statement of General Fund Revenue represents the collection of general fund revenue received by the issuance of licenses and permits in the Transportation Division. Revenue collected from these sources is remitted to the State General Fund.

Statement of General Fund Revenue

|                                | <u>FY-85</u>               |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ICC or ICC Registration        | \$ 49,625.00               |
| MC-A Permit                    | 200.00                     |
| MC-B Permit                    | 6,100.00                   |
| MC-C Permit                    | 2,150.00                   |
| Permit Transfers               | 3,600.00                   |
| Non Storage Licenses           | 407.50                     |
| Federal Storage Licenses       | 392.50                     |
| Grain Elevator Licenses        | 5,850.00                   |
| General Warehouse Certificates | 425.00                     |
| Decals                         | 1,226.00                   |
| Grain Buyers Licenses          | 2,850.00                   |
| Identification Stamps          | 830,790.00                 |
| Cab Cards                      | 696.00                     |
| Reimbursements                 | 51.23                      |
| Grain Terminal Weighmaster     | 0.00                       |
| Total                          | <u><u>\$904,363.23</u></u> |

The Special Hearing Fund Revenue listed in the following report for state fiscal year 1985 shows the amount of the annual intrastate gross receipts tax paid by each Commission-regulated natural gas, electric and telephone company in South Dakota. This annual intrastate gross receipts tax, levied on the following listed companies, is authorized by SDCL 49-1A-3 and provides funding for the Commission's Division of Fixed Utilities. This funding source appears as other funds in the fixed utilities division.

Special Hearing Fund Revenue

|                                     | <u>FY-85</u>               |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Bison State Telephone Company       | \$ 4,772.54                |
| Black Hills Power And Light Company | 73,697.77                  |
| Northern States Power Company       | 65,630.56                  |
| Iowa Public Service                 | 17,581.29                  |
| Minnegasco                          | 63,511.53                  |
| Northwestern Bell Telephone Company | 156,960.81                 |
| Otter Tail Power Company            | 17,147.84                  |
| Northwestern Public Service Company | 136,384.00                 |
| Montana-Dakota Utilities            | 57,008.62                  |
| Reimbursements                      | 77.70                      |
| Total                               | <u><u>\$592,772.66</u></u> |

Budget, Expenditures, Encumbrances and Reversions  
for the Year ending June 30, 1985

| Program                             | Budget at<br>Beginning<br>of Period | Budget at<br>end of<br>Period | Expenditure by Fund        |                            | Total<br>Expenditures        | Encumbrances<br>and<br>Carry-overs Reversions |                            |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
|                                     |                                     |                               | General                    | Dedicated                  |                              |   |                            |
| 01- Administration                  |                                     |                               |                            |                            |                              |   |                            |
| Personal Services                   | \$217,272.00                        | \$217,272.00                  | \$217,272.00               |                            | \$ 217,272.00                |   |                            |
| Operating Expenses                  | <u>27,320.00</u>                    | <u>27,320.00</u>              | <u>27,193.36</u>           |                            | <u>27,193.36</u>             | \$ 0.00                                       | <u>126.64</u>              |
| Total Program                       | \$244,592.00                        | \$244,592.00                  | \$244,465.36               |                            | \$ 244,465.36                | \$ 0.00                                       | \$ 126.64                  |
| 02- Transportation                  |                                     |                               |                            |                            |                              |   |                            |
| Personal Services                   | \$149,303.00                        | \$149,303.00                  | \$149,303.00               |                            | \$ 149,303.00                |   |                            |
| Operating Expenses                  | <u>48,637.00</u>                    | <u>48,637.00</u>              | <u>46,529.64</u>           |                            | <u>46,529.64</u>             | \$ 1,799.16                                   | <u>308.20</u>              |
| Total Program                       | \$197,940.00                        | \$197,940.00                  | \$195,832.64               |                            | \$ 195,832.64                | \$ 1,799.16                                   | \$ 308.20                  |
| 03- Fixed Utilities                 |                                     |                               |                            |                            |                              |   |                            |
| Personal Services                   | \$429,295.00                        | \$429,295.00                  |                            |                            | \$ 341,472.92                |   |                            |
| Operating Expenses                  | <u>216,703.00</u>                   | <u>216,703.00</u>             |                            |                            | <u>121,558.24</u>            | \$26,997.63                                   | <u>155,969.21</u>          |
| Total Program                       | \$645,998.00                        | \$645,998.00                  |                            |                            | \$ 463,031.16                | \$26,997.63                                   | \$155,969.21               |
| 04- Non-Appropriated<br>Filing Fees |                                     |                               |                            |                            |                              |   |                            |
| Operating Expenses                  | <u>\$330,557.69</u>                 | <u>\$330,557.69</u>           |                            | <u>\$330,557.69</u>        | <u>\$ 249,834.19</u>         |   | <u>80,723.50</u>           |
| Total Program                       | \$330,557.69                        | \$330,557.69                  |                            | \$330,557.69               | \$ 249,834.19                |   | \$ 80,723.50               |
| <b>TOTAL ALL PROGRAMS</b>           | <u><u>\$1,419,087.69</u></u>        | <u><u>\$1,419,087.69</u></u>  | <u><u>\$440,298.00</u></u> | <u><u>\$330,557.69</u></u> | <u><u>\$1,153,164.35</u></u> | <u><u>\$28,796.79</u></u>                     | <u><u>\$237,127.55</u></u> |

## TRANSPORTATION DIVISION

The Transportation Division is responsible for matters relating to the regulation of Class A, B and C motor carriers, public storage warehouses, public grain warehouses and grain dealers. This division has four sections: 1) Motor Carriers, 2) Inspection/Investigation, 3) Public Warehousing and 4) Legal.

### MOTOR CARRIER SECTION:

The primary purpose of motor carrier regulation by the Commission is to assure the public of adequate and reliable transportation service at reasonable rates. These rates are reviewed to insure they are not unjustly discriminatory and do not prefer any individual or group to the detriment of others. The motor carrier section consists of technical, support and clerical personnel who assist the Commission in meeting its statutory responsibilities relating to the transportation industry in providing safe and adequate service under reasonable and non-discriminatory rates to consumers.

Further, this staff is responsible for coordinating and processing applications, tariffs, time-tables, insurance and service requirements for intrastate motor carriers and interstate motor carriers operating within the boundaries of South Dakota. The staff also maintains complete files of all motor carriers' tariffs and handles complaints and inquiries from the general public.

As provided in Chapter 49-28 of the South Dakota Codified Laws there are two types of related motor carriers: 1) common carriers, and 2) Class C carriers.

1) A Common Carrier is a motor carrier which holds itself out to the general public as engaged in the business of transporting persons or property in intrastate commerce which it is accustomed to and is capable of transporting from place to place in this State for hire. Intrastate permits are granted to common carriers in two classes (A & B) as follows:

Class A - motor carriers operating between fixed terminals or over a regular route, under regular rates or charges, based upon either station-to-station rates or upon a mileage rate or scale (for example: commercial bus lines/independent truckers who operate on a fixed schedule.);

Class B - motor carriers operating under regular rates or charges, based upon either station-to-station rates, or upon a mileage rate or scale, and not between fixed terminals or over a regular route (for example: cattle and grain haulers);

Note: both Classes A & B are limited to a certain area of service within which their commerce must originate and end.

2) Class C Carriers are operators which transport property where the remuneration is fixed in and the transportation service furnished under a contract or agreement where such carrier does not engage in or hold itself out to furnish service to the public generally.

Interstate carriers are required by state law to register their South Dakota operations with the Commission and are subject to regulation by the

federal government's Interstate Commerce Commission. Interstate carriers are required to purchase annually the South Dakota identification stamps, which are commonly referred to as "bingo stamps".

MOTOR CARRIER STATISTICS FY1984 - FY1985

The following chart provides the performance data in fiscal years 1984-1985 of the transportation division's handling of these various applications and motor carrier registrations.

| Intrastate Permits Issued: | <u>FY 1984</u> | <u>FY 1985</u> |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Class A                    | 1              | 1              |
| Class B                    | 89             | 61             |
| Class C                    | 38             | 43             |
| Permit Transfers           | 51             | 36             |
| Interstate Registration    | 1,978          | 1,985          |
| Identification Stamps      | 157,636        | 166,158        |

INSPECTION/INVESTIGATION SECTION:

This section is staffed by three Inspectors/Investigators who are stationed outside the Commission's office in Pierre. Through daily contact with the Pierre office, these three Inspector/Investigators are responsible for conducting investigative, monitoring and contact activities with motor carrier operators and inspecting licensed grain warehouses and dealers throughout South Dakota. These responsibilities and activities are carried out to assure compliance with the provisions of the South Dakota Codified Laws for motor carriers, public warehouses, grain elevators and grain dealers. They also are responsible for assuring compliance with the regulations and rules promulgated by the Commission in this area.

These activities by the Inspectors/Investigators assist the Commission's motor carrier efforts to insure the public of adequate, safe and dependable transportation service at reasonable and non-discriminatory rates. These inspection activities also assist the Commission's efforts in licensing and supervising the bonding practices of public warehouses, grain elevators and grain dealers to insure the property rights of owners and payments to producers.

PUBLIC WAREHOUSING SECTION:

The Commission's staff in the public warehousing section is responsible to carry out the activities of the licensing and the bonding of warehouses and grain elevators, the handling of complaints and the exercise of the Commission's statutory jurisdiction over the handling, shipping and storing of grain.

The following is a description of the types of public warehouses and grain dealers which are regulated by the Commission and the bonding requirements for each as of July 1, 1985:

- 1) Public grain warehouses include all public warehouses in this state where grain and seeds are received for storage for hire. A five thousand dollar (\$5,000) bond must be provided for the first 10,000 bushels of storage

capacity and an additional three thousand dollar (\$3,000) bond is required for each additional 10,000 bushels. However, if the value of grain held in storage exceeds the amount of such a bond, the warehouseman must furnish a total bond in an amount equal to the value of the grain in storage.

- 2) Public storage warehouses include all those where any personal property except grain and seed is received for storage for hire. Their bonding requirements are based on the square footage of their storage area, or, in lieu of bond, insurance may be filed.
- 3) A grain dealer's license is required of any person, firm or corporation who purchases grain from the owner for the purpose of resale. A grain dealer must furnish either a \$25,000 or \$50,000 bond. The bond amount is based upon the value of grain purchased in the previous fiscal year or the number of trucks operated by the grain dealer, whichever requires the greater bond.

Also a grain dealer is required to purchase a \$2 decal to be displayed in the lower left hand corner of the windshield of each truck that is operated.

- 4) The Commission also licenses one grain weighmaster. A weighmaster is an individual who is authorized to weigh grain and certify the weight at a grain warehouse. The bonding requirement is in the sum of \$5,000, conditioned upon the faithful performance of his duties as a weighmaster.

The following chart lists the statistics of the public warehousing section for the fiscal years of 1984 and 1985.

PUBLIC WAREHOUSING STATISTICS FY1984 AND FY1985

|                               | FY 1984 | FY 1985 |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Public Storage Warehouses     | 49      | 39      |
| Grain Warehouse (non-storing) | 73      | 43      |
| Federal Licensed Elevators    | 84      | 65      |
| Public Grain Warehouses       | 484     | 390     |
| Grain Dealers                 | 343     | 190     |

During FY 1984 and 1985, at least 6 state-licensed grain warehouses switched to a federal license, 4 ceased operating, 2 were subject to PUC revocation proceedings, and 1 filed bankruptcy.

In addition, four licensed grain dealers filed bankruptcy petitions and/or had their licenses revoked.

During Fiscal Years 1984 and 1985 all of the South Dakota licensed grain storage warehouses were inspected at least once by the three inspectors on the Public Utilities Commission staff. The licensed elevators submit monthly grain reports on the first of every month for grain held in storage. They are required to be bonded for the market value of stored grain as of the reporting date.

LEGAL SECTION:

Effective July 1, 1984, the legal section is staffed with one Assistant Attorney General who provides legal advice to the Commission and Transportation Division staff on all transportation related matters such as: motor carriers, public storage warehouses, public grain warehouses and grain dealers.

This attorney prepares Commission reports and orders and prepares opinions and memoranda on legal questions before the Commission which require research in addition to representing the transportation staff in various hearings. This attorney provides the Commission and staff with legal representation in state courts in transportation related litigation.

TRANSPORTATION COURT PROCEEDINGS FY1983 - FY1984

23148-B Class B motor carrier application of Shirley Hawley dba Midwest Tours and Charter Service

Appeal of the Commission Report and Order filed in the Circuit Court for the County of Beadle, Third Judicial Circuit. The appeal was dismissed with prejudice upon stipulation of the parties.

6299-B Application of James Hoffman for the extension of his Class B motor carrier authority.

Judge Patrick McKeever of the 6th Judicial Circuit denied the appeal of James Hoffman and affirmed the PUC's Order of Reconsideration.

22861-B Application of Midwest Secutiry Transfer, Inc. Commission Decision was upheld by South Dakota Supreme Court.

State of south Dakota vs. Steven E. Macy, dba Midwest Transport, Inc. (case number unkown). Upon PUC complaint, the defendant pled guilty before the Seventh Circuit Magistrate to three counts of operating as a class C motor carrier without registering in accordance with SDCL 49-28-21.

MOTOR CARRIER ORDERS ISSUED FROM JULY 1, 1984 TO JULY 1, 1985

MOTOR CARRIER

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Notice of Opportunity for Hearing         | 30 |
| Order for and Notice of Hearing           | 14 |
| Report & Order                            | 18 |
| Class B Grants - No Opposition            | 21 |
| Class C Grants - No Opposition            | 28 |
| Orders Dismissing - Application Withdrawn | 4  |
| Order for & Notice of Increase Rates      | 4  |

PUBLIC GRAIN WAREHOUSEMAN

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Order to Show Cause & Order for & Notice of Hearing | 1 |
| Order of Revocation                                 | 1 |

## FIXED UTILITIES DIVISION

During the 1975 Legislative Session, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission was vested with the powers, rights, functions and jurisdiction to regulate every investor-owned utility in South Dakota as defined in SDCL 49-34A-1(12). This definition of "public utility" is as follows:

"any person operating, maintaining or controlling in this state equipment or facilities for the purpose of providing gas, or electric service to or for the public in whole or in part, in this state; provided, however, the term shall not apply to an electric or gas utility owned by a municipality, political subdivision, or agency of the state of South Dakota or any other state or a rural electric cooperative as defined in..." South Dakota Codified Law.

After the Commission was given this legal jurisdiction over certain "public utilities" for gas and electricity, the legislature established and the Commission named this division "Fixed Utilities". These new electric and natural gas regulatory responsibilities were added to the already existent telephone utilities regulation within the same division.

The Fixed Utilities Division has been responsible for the regulation of those public utilities which have fixed facilities and equipment which have required a major investment to construct and maintain. The state legislature has determined that the duplication of these fixed facilities and equipment by competing companies would not be in the consumer's best interest. The Fixed Utilities Division is responsible for matters relating to the regulation of investor-owned electric, natural gas and telephone utilities companies. This division has four sections: 1) accounting, 2) consumer services and complaints, 3) engineering and 4) legal.

The Fixed Utilities Division consists of professional, technical, support and clerical personnel who assist the Commission in meeting its statutory responsibilities relating to the regulation of rates, service, certification and safety of utility facilities for electric, natural gas and telephone utilities companies.

The main objective of the accounting or rate analyst section is the processing of filings for requested increases in regulated utility company rates. This section must analyze filings, identify issues, prepare testimony and exhibits incorporating the staff's recommendations, as well as to assist in the preparation of cross-examination questions and preparation of briefs for use in the formal hearings process.

This section also analyzes and recommends action to be taken with regard to new tariff filings, purchase gas adjustments, fuel adjustment clauses, State and Federal Legislation, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission actions, Federal Communications Commission actions, actions of other states and investigations into new or non-routine utility regulation areas. The staff in the accounting section also provides technical expertise to other staff members or the Commissioners in the areas of electric, natural gas and telephone utility regulation.

The legal section consists of one assistant attorney general. This attorney prepares notices of hearings, legal recommendations and final hearings. She also attends hearings, initiates investigation, drafts administrative rules, and represents staff's position before the Commission.

The engineering section, which is made up of a staff engineer, is responsible for providing technical staff direction to the Commission so as to insure the availability of regulated utility services of a prescribed quality and in sufficient quantity to meet all reasonable requirements for public use. The staff engineer participates in formal siting proceedings and he provides technical recommendations to the Commission in these proceedings.

The consumer services and complaints section responds to consumer inquiries, investigates and resolves consumer complaints and prepares statistical summaries on consumer complaint activity throughout each fiscal year.

#### LEGAL SECTION:

The Fixed Utilities Division is staffed with an Assistant Attorney General who provides legal advise to the staff on all fixed utilities matters. The attorney's salary is appropriated in the Commission's budget, but in order for her to represent the State of South Dakota in rate cases and other proceedings, she is required by law to be approved by the Attorney General and is designated as an Assistant Attorney General.

The Fixed Utilities Division legal staff, made up of this attorney and her legal secretary, prepares recommended reports and orders and drafts recommendations for final orders and decisions. Research work is required of this attorney for opinions and memoranda. The attorney also works with legal consultants who are sometimes hired for more complex cases or in the most active rate case time periods.

The Fixed Utilities Division legal staff works in the areas of electricity, natural gas and telephone at the Commission level. The Commission's attorney provides the Commission with legal representation in state and federal courts in electric, natural gas, telephone and miscellaneous litigation affecting the Commission.



## ELECTRIC UTILITY REGULATION:

In the area of electric utility regulation, the Commission regulates six investor-owned electric companies. They are Black Hills Power and Light Company, Iowa Public Service Company, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. Northern States Power Company, Northwestern Public Service Company and Otter Tail Power Company. During the time period of fiscal year 1985, electric rate case applications in the amount of \$1,939,791 were pending before the Commission.

The following is a breakdown of these docketed electric rate case applications. The determination of those proceedings is also included within this information.

### In the Matter of the Application of Northwestern Public Service Company for an Increase in Electric Service Rates (F-3508)

On November 6, 1984, NWPS filed with the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) an application for increased retail electric service rates. The Company's application, based on a test year ended June 30, 1984, sought approval of rates which would yield NWPS additional annual revenues of approximately \$516,121. On December 13, 1984, the Industrial and Commercial Energy Users Group (ICEUG) applied for intervenor status, which the Commission subsequently granted on January 9, 1985. Staff initially recommended that NWPS be allowed an increase of \$497,905 in its electric rates.

On March 11, 1985, an informal preliminary conference was held. Representatives of NWPS, ICEUG and staff attended. As a result of the conference, the parties reached a settlement on the level of NWPS' increased revenues. The parties agreed that the Company would be allowed to put into effect rate schedules which would generate an increase in annual base rate revenues for electric service of approximately \$516,121. The parties further agreed that the Settlement Agreement entered into in Docket F-3367 (1981) and the rate moratorium provided for therein, would remain in full force and effect. On March 25, 1985, the Commission issued an Order approving this Settlement Agreement.

### In the Matter of the Application of Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Authority to Establish Increased Rates for Electric Service (F-3488)

On June 29, 1984, MDU filed with the Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") an application for increased retail electric rates. The Company's application, based on a test year ended December 31, 1983, sought approval of rates which would yield MDU additional annual revenues of approximately \$1,424,136. Staff initially recommended that MDU be allowed an increase of

\$410,774 in its electric rates, inclusive of the proposed purchase of an additional 11.85 megawatt interest in the Big Stone station, and an increase of \$323,395, exclusive of the purchase of Big Stone. MDU submitted rebuttal to staff on October 19, 1984. No interventions were filed in this application.

On October 31, 1984, an informal prehearing conference was held. Representatives of Company and staff attended. As a result of the conference, MDU and staff reached a settlement on the level of MDU's increased revenues and on certain other matters. In consideration of the moratorium obtained, staff agreed to a rate of return on equity of 14.5%, an amount which is in the range of previous Commission returns granted. Regarding the level of revenues, the parties agreed to a \$879,979 increase in MDU's electric rates, including the proposed purchase of an additional interest in the Big Stone station, and a \$769,646 increase in rates excluding the proposed purchase. By Order dated November 14, 1985, the Commission approved the Settlement Agreement entered into by Company and staff.

#### NATURAL GAS UTILITY REGULATION:

In the area of natural gas utility regulation, the Commission regulates four investor-owned natural gas companies. They are Iowa Public Service Company, Minnegasco, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. and Northwestern Public Service Company. During fiscal year 1985 a natural gas rate case application in the amount of \$499,095 was pending before the Commission. The following is a breakdown of this docketed natural gas rate case application.

#### In the Matter of the Application of Iowa Public Service Company for an Increase in Rates for Natural Gas Service (F-3546)

On June 17, 1985, Iowa Public Service Company (IPS or Company) filed an application for an increase in rates for natural gas service. With this application, IPS filed natural gas rate schedules which would increase revenues from the sale of natural gas service by approximately \$499,000. This proposed tariff would increase current revenues by about 5.1%. By Orders dated August 26, 1985 and September 9, 1985, the Commission established the time for intervention and the procedural schedule for this docket.

Staff initially recommended that IPS be allowed an increase of \$435,334 in gas rates.

On October 16, 1985, an informal prehearing conference was held. Representatives of Company and Staff attended. As a result of the conference, IPS and Staff reached a settlement on the level of IPS' increased

revenues. The parties agreed that the Company would be allowed to put into effect rate schedules which would generate an increase in annual base rate revenues of approximately \$461,511. By Order dated October 30, 1985, the Commission approved the settlement agreement.

TELEPHONE UTILITY REGULATION:

In the area of telephone utility regulations, the Commission regulates three telephone companies. They are Northwestern Bell Telephone Company (US West), Bison State Telephone Company (CONTEL) and AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc. (ATT Communications).

The South Dakota Legislature has removed municipal telephone companies (1980), telephone cooperatives (1979) and independent telephone companies with fewer than 7,000 subscribers (1982) from the Commission's jurisdiction. Therefore, after fiscal year 1982, the Commission was authorized by state law to regulate only the rates of Northwestern Bell Telephone Company and Bison State Telephone Company. In 1984, the United States Justice Department mandated the division of the Bell System into separate companies -- seven regional holding companies, of which US West is one, to provide local service and AT&T communications to provide long distance service. The Commission has regulated the three companies since January 1, 1984.

In the Matter of the Application of AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc., for an Order of the Commission Establishing New Rates and Charges Which will Provide it With an Increased Level of Earnings for its Intrastate Telephone Services Furnished Within the State of South Dakota (F-3510)

On November 21, 1984, AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc. (AT&T Communications) filed an application for authority to increase rates for interLATA intrastate telephone service. In that application, AT&T Communications proposed to increase rates for intrastate telephone service by approximately \$218,000.

A request for intervention was filed by the South Dakota Independent Telephone Coalition, Inc. (SDITC) which the Commission granted. Subsequently, the Intervenor determined that they were interested in matters that could be resolved outside the rate case. Thus, the Intervenor withdrew from participating in the remaining portion of the rate case.

Due to AT&T Communications post-divestiture financial position, Staff recommended that AT&T Communications be granted their total request of \$218,000, a 39.7% rate increase for toll service rates.

On March 20, 1985, an informal prehearing conference was held with AT&T Communications and Staff participating. As a result of the conference, the parties reached a settlement. The parties agreed that AT&T Communications would be allowed to put into effect rate schedules which would generate an increase in annual base revenues of approximately \$218,000. On April 19, 1985, the Commission issued an Order approving this Settlement Agreement.

In the Matter of the Application of Northwestern Bell Telephone Company for an Order of the Commission Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates and Charges, Which Will Provide it With a Just and Reasonable Level of Earnings, for its Intrastate Telephone Services Furnished Within the State of South Dakota (F-3516)

On the 14th day of December, 1984, Northwestern Bell Telephone Company (NWB) filed with this Commission an application for authority to increase rates for intrastate telephone service. NWB requested to increase intrastate revenue by \$9,330,554 on an annual basis which, if granted, would have resulted in an average \$2.20 per month increase for a typical residential customer. In the application, NWB filed two months of estimated data along with ten months of actual data. By Order dated January 14, 1985, the Commission found that the filing of estimated data violates the Commission Order in Docket F-3031, which requires NWB "to file only for such test years as contain actual data at the time of filing". (Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and Order, dated April 23, 1976). The Commission further found that NWB failed to file all actual data, as required by the Order in Docket F-3031. Consequently, the Commission ordered dismissal of NWB's application in F-3516.

In the Matter of the Application of Northwestern Bell Telephone Company for an Increase in its Intrastate Rates in South Dakota (F-3520)

On the 1st day of February, 1985, Northwestern Bell Telephone Company (NWB or Company) filed with this Commission an application for authority to increase rates for intrastate telephone service. By the terms of its application, NWB requested to increase rates for intrastate telephone service by \$9,861,726, on an annual basis. Subsequently, at the hearing held on May 27-29, 1985, NWB increased the amount requested to \$10,338,884, on an annual basis.

On April 30, 1985, the Commission entered an Order granting petitions for intervention filed by the South Dakota Independent Telephone Coalition (SDITC) and by the South Dakota Innkeepers Association (SDIA).

On May 15, 1985, Commission Staff filed a Motion to Compel Production of Data and for Related Relief. In that Motion, Commission Staff requested Commission to compel NWB to produce requested material concerning consolidated tax accruals, US West Direct's publishing of NWB's telephone directories, and US West's allocation of costs to subscribers.

Contested case hearings on NWB's application were held in Pierre, South Dakota on May 27-29, 1985. Present

and represented by counsel at the hearing were NWB and Commission Staff. Intervenor South Dakota Innkeepers Association was represented by Mr. Johnson at the hearing. On July 23, 1985, the Commission met in open meeting for its deliberation on the rate increase application in this docket. By Order dated July 31, 1985, the Commission approved an increase in revenues of \$4,642,362 for Northwestern Bell's intrastate rates in South Dakota.

Northwestern Bell appealed the Commission decision to the Circuit Court, Sixth Judicial Circuit of South Dakota. Appealed issues included the portion of the Commission Order compelling Northwestern Bell to produce certain documents and the issues of inflation adjustment and average cash balances in working capital which are presently the issues before the South Dakota Supreme Court in Docket F-3442.

SUMMARY  
TELEPHONE

|                       | Date<br>Filed | Date<br>Decided | Amount<br>Requested | Percentage<br>Requested | Amount<br>Granted | Percentage<br>Increase<br>Granted | Effective<br>Date Of<br>Rates |
|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Telephone Regulation: |               |                 |                     |                         |                   |                                   |                               |
| AT&T - F-3510         | 11-21-84      | 4-19-85         | \$ 218,000          | 39.7%                   | \$ 218,000        | 39.7%                             | 4-20-85                       |
| NWB - F-3516          | 12-14-84      | 1-14-85         | 9,330,554           | 9.3%                    | ---               | ---                               | ---                           |
| NWB - F-3520          | 2-01-85       | 7-31-85         | 9,861,863           | 9.59%                   | 4,642,362         | 4.63%                             | 8-01-85                       |

## Telephone Companies Regulated

1. Northwestern Bell Telephone Company, Sioux Falls, SD
2. Bison State Telephone Company, Custer, SD

## Telephone Companies - Non-Regulated

### Independent

3. Armour Independent Telephone Company, Armour, SD
4. Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority, Eagle Butte, SD
5. Mt. Rushmore Telephone Company, Keystone, SD
6. Hanson County Telephone Company, Alexandria, SD
7. Jefferson Telephone Company, Jefferson, SD
8. Kadoka Telephone Company, Kadoka, SD
9. Kennebec Telephone Company, Kennebec, SD
10. Sioux Valley Telephone Company, Dell Rapids, SD
11. Stockholm-Strandburg Telephone Company, Stockholm, SD
12. Tri-County Mutual Telephone Company, Emergy, SD
13. Union Telephone Company, Hartford, SD
14. Vivian Telephone Company, Vivian, SD
15. Western Telephone Company, Faulkton, SD

### Cooperatives

16. Baltic Cooperative Telephone Company, Baltic, SD
17. Brookings-Lake Telephone Company, Brookings, SD
18. Dakota Cooperative Telecommunications, Irene, SD
19. Deuel Telephone Cooperative Association, Clear Lake, SD
20. Golden West Telephone Cooperative, Inc., Wall, SD
21. James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company, Groton, SD
22. McCook Cooperative Telephone Company, Salem, SD
23. Midstate Telephone Company, Kimball, SD
24. Roberts County Telephone Cooperative Association, New Effington, SD
25. Sanborn Telephone Cooperative, Inc., Woonsocket, SD
26. Splitrock Cooperative Telephone Association, Garretson, SD
27. Sully Buttes Telephone Cooperative, Inc., Highmore, SD
28. Valley Telephone Cooperative Association, Herreid, SD
29. West River Cooperative Telephone Company, Bison, SD

### Municipal

30. City of Beresford Telephone Department, Beresford, SD
31. City of Brookings Telephone Department, Brookings, SD
32. Faith Municipal Telephone Company, Faith, SD

### Foreign

33. Farmers Mutual Telephone Company, Bellingham, MN
34. Hills Telephone Company, Inc., Estherville, IA
35. Continental Telephone Company of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
36. Great Plains Communications, Blair, NE
37. Three River Telco, Lynch, NE
38. Valley Telephone Company, Browns Valley, MN
39. Northwestern Bell Telephone Company of Iowa
40. Northwestern Bell Telephone Company of Nebraska
41. Northwestern Bell Telephone Company of Minnesota
42. Northwestern Bell Telephone Company of North Dakota
43. Northwestern Bell Telephone company of Wyoming
44. Consolidated Telephone Corporation, Dickinson, ND
45. Dickey Rural Telephone Mutual Aid Corporation, Ellendale, ND
46. West River Mutual Aid Telephone Corporation, Hazen, ND



BISON STATE TELEPHONE COMPANY  
SUMMARY OF INTRASTATE OPERATIONS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 1985 AND 1984

|                               | Fiscal Year<br>1985 | Fiscal Year<br>1984 | Difference  | Percentage<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| <u>Revenues</u>               |                     |                     |             |                                      |
| Local service                 | \$ 1,672,190        | \$ 1,714,482        | \$ (42,292) | (2.47%)                              |
|                               | 235.82              | 242.71              |             |                                      |
| Network access                | 3,200,956           | 3,152,043           | 48,913      | 1.55%                                |
|                               | 451.41              | 446.21              |             |                                      |
| Miscellaneous                 | 76,543              | 73,718              | 2,825       | 3.83%                                |
|                               | 10.79               | 10.44               |             |                                      |
| Less: Uncollectibles          | 30,157              | 46,369              | (16,212)    | (34.96%)                             |
|                               | 4.25                | 6.56                |             |                                      |
| Total operating revenues      | \$ 4,919,532        | \$ 4,893,874        | \$ 25,658   | 0.52%                                |
|                               | 693.77              | 692.80              |             |                                      |
| <u>Expenses</u>               |                     |                     |             |                                      |
| Maintenance                   | \$ 728,517          | \$ 702,956          | \$ 25,561   | 3.64%                                |
|                               | 102.74              | 99.51               |             |                                      |
| Depreciation                  | 966,316             | 1,034,806           | (68,490)    | (6.62%)                              |
|                               | 136.27              | 146.49              |             |                                      |
| Traffic                       | 92,328              | 93,903              | (1,575)     | (1.68%)                              |
|                               | 13.02               | 13.29               |             |                                      |
| Commercial                    | 292,935             | 286,081             | 6,854       | 2.40%                                |
|                               | 41.31               | 40.50               |             |                                      |
| General                       | 381,176             | 252,933             | 128,243     | 50.70%                               |
|                               | 53.75               | 35.81               |             |                                      |
| Other                         | 210,265             | 216,335             | (6,070)     | (2.81%)                              |
|                               | 29.65               | 30.63               |             |                                      |
| Taxes (excluding F.I.T.)      | 297,105             | 295,123             | 1,982       | 0.67%                                |
|                               | 41.90               | 41.78               |             |                                      |
| Federal income taxes (F.I.T.) | 606,339             | 753,361             | (147,022)   | (19.52%)                             |
|                               | 85.51               | 106.65              |             |                                      |
| Total operating expenses      | \$ 3,574,981        | \$ 3,635,498        | \$ (60,517) | (1.66%)                              |
|                               | 504.15              | 514.66              |             |                                      |
| Net operating income          | \$ 1,344,551        | \$ 1,258,376        | \$ 86,175   | 6.85%                                |
|                               | 189.62              | 178.14              |             |                                      |
| Plant in service (ave)        | \$15,016,497        | \$14,749,649        | \$ 266,848  | 1.81%                                |
| Less: Depreciation (ave)      | 3,193,329           | 2,484,576           | 708,753     | 28.53%                               |
| Net plant in service (ave)    | \$11,823,168        | \$12,265,073        | \$(441,905) | (3.60%)                              |
|                               | 1,667.35            | 1,736.28            |             |                                      |
| Access lines-AL               | 7,091               | 7,064               |             |                                      |
| Rate of return                | 11.372%             | 10.260%             |             |                                      |
| Gross margin                  | 27.331%             | 25.713%             |             |                                      |

NORTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY  
SUMMARY OF INTRASTATE OPERATIONS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 1985 AND 1984

|                                    | Fiscal Year<br>1985  | Fiscal Year<br>1984  | Difference            | Percentage<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <u>Revenues</u>                    |                      |                      |                       |                                      |
| Local service                      | \$ 54,765,423        | \$ 50,634,210        | \$ 4,131,213          | 8.16%                                |
| /AL                                | 232.09               | 216.17               |                       |                                      |
| Toll service                       | 43,687,648           | 41,560,418           | 2,127,230             | 5.12%                                |
| /AL                                | 185.14               | 177.43               |                       |                                      |
| Miscellaneous                      | 4,674,079            | 8,345,000            | (3,670,921)           | (43.99%)                             |
| /AL                                | 19.81                | 35.63                |                       |                                      |
| Less: Uncollectibles               | 436,696              | 371,870              | 64,826                | 17.43%                               |
| /AL                                | 1.85                 | 1.59                 |                       |                                      |
| Total operating revenues           | <u>\$102,690,454</u> | <u>\$100,167,758</u> | <u>\$ 2,522,696</u>   | <u>2.52%</u>                         |
| /AL                                | 435.19               | 427.64               |                       |                                      |
| <u>Expenses</u>                    |                      |                      |                       |                                      |
| Maintenance                        | \$ 13,734,182        | \$ 15,309,076        | \$ (1,574,894)        | (10.29%)                             |
| /AL                                | 58.20                | 65.36                |                       |                                      |
| Depreciation                       | 18,333,040           | 17,023,574           | 1,309,466             | 7.69%                                |
| /AL                                | 77.69                | 72.68                |                       |                                      |
| Traffic                            | 3,877,511            | 4,275,056            | (397,545)             | (9.30%)                              |
| /AL                                | 16.43                | 18.25                |                       |                                      |
| Commercial and marketing           | 9,059,458            | 10,560,368           | (1,500,910)           | (14.21%)                             |
| /AL                                | 38.39                | 45.08                |                       |                                      |
| Accounting                         | 4,490,961            | 4,172,562            | 318,399               | 7.63%                                |
| /AL                                | 19.03                | 17.81                |                       |                                      |
| Employee benefits                  | 5,398,652            | 5,633,966            | (235,314)             | (4.18%)                              |
| /AL                                | 22.88                | 24.05                |                       |                                      |
| General services and licenses      | 1,503,147            | 1,464,014            | 39,133                | 2.67%                                |
| /AL                                | 6.37                 | 6.25                 |                       |                                      |
| Other expenses                     | 14,342,649           | 11,701,434           | 2,641,215             | 22.57%                               |
| /AL                                | 60.78                | 49.96                |                       |                                      |
| Less: Expense charged construction | 944,534              | 1,302,152            | (357,618)             | (27.46%)                             |
| /AL                                | 4.00                 | 5.56                 |                       |                                      |
| Interest on customer deposits      | 36,756               | 45,442               | (8,686)               | (19.11%)                             |
| /AL                                | 0.16                 | 0.19                 |                       |                                      |
| Other taxes                        | 7,295,126            | 6,192,326            | 1,102,800             | 17.81%                               |
| /AL                                | 30.92                | 26.44                |                       |                                      |
| Federal income taxes               | 8,175,070            | 7,522,152            | 652,918               | 8.68%                                |
| /AL                                | 34.65                | 32.11                |                       |                                      |
| Total operating expenses           | <u>\$ 85,302,018</u> | <u>\$ 82,597,818</u> | <u>\$ 2,704,200</u>   | <u>3.27%</u>                         |
| /AL                                | 361.50               | 352.62               |                       |                                      |
| Net telephone earnings             | <u>\$ 17,388,436</u> | <u>\$ 17,569,940</u> | <u>\$ (181,504)</u>   | <u>(1.03%)</u>                       |
| /AL                                | 73.69                | 75.02                |                       |                                      |
| Commission disallowances           | 394,496              | 87,738               | 306,758               | 349.63%                              |
| /AL                                | 1.67                 | 0.37                 |                       |                                      |
| Net operating revenues             | <u>\$ 17,782,932</u> | <u>\$ 17,657,678</u> | <u>\$ 125,254</u>     | <u>0.71%</u>                         |
| /AL                                | 75.36                | 75.39                |                       |                                      |
| Rate base per F-3520               | <u>\$175,668,578</u> | <u>\$177,192,347</u> | <u>\$ (1,523,769)</u> | <u>(0.86%)</u>                       |
| F-3442                             |                      |                      |                       |                                      |
| /AL                                | 744.47               | 756.48               |                       |                                      |
| Access lines-AL                    | <u>235,965</u>       | <u>234,233</u>       | <u>1,732</u>          | <u>0.74%</u>                         |
| Rate of return per F-3520          | 10.123%              | 9.965%               |                       |                                      |
| F-3442                             |                      |                      |                       |                                      |
| Gross margin                       | 17.317%              | 17.628%              |                       |                                      |

AT&T COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MIDWEST, INC.  
SUMMARY OF INTRASTATE OPERATIONS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 1985 AND 1984

|                                    | <u>Fiscal Year</u><br>1985 * | <u>Fiscal Year</u><br>1984 ** |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <u>Revenues</u>                    |                              |                               |
| Toll service                       | \$1,248,000                  | \$ (995,000)                  |
| Less: Uncollectibles               | (3,000)                      | 66,000                        |
| Total operating revenues           | <u>\$1,251,000</u>           | <u>\$ (1,061,000)</u>         |
| <u>Expenses</u>                    |                              |                               |
| Billing charges                    | \$ 214,000                   | \$ 18,000                     |
| Depreciation                       | 11,000                       | 22,000                        |
| Maintenance                        | 24,000                       | 40,000                        |
| Operator services                  | 41,000                       | 142,000                       |
| Marketing                          | 86,000                       | 4,000                         |
| Engineering                        | 7,000                        | 7,000                         |
| Operating rents                    | 27,000                       | 49,000                        |
| Financial operations               | 11,000                       | 18,000                        |
| Employee benefits                  | 67,000                       | 63,000                        |
| Other and general                  | 5,000                        | 24,000                        |
| Taxes (excluding F.I.T.)           | 23,000                       | 27,000                        |
| Federal income taxes (F.I.T.)      | 345,000                      | (680,000)                     |
| Less: Expense charged construction | 1,000                        |                               |
| Total operating expenses           | <u>\$ 860,000</u>            | <u>\$ (266,000)</u>           |
| Net operating income               | <u>\$ 391,000</u>            | <u>\$ (795,000)</u>           |
| Average rate base                  | <u>\$ 145,718</u>            | <u>\$ 524,890</u>             |
| Rate of return                     | 268.326%                     | (146.41%)                     |

\* Several local exchange carriers had not reported revenues and billing expenses to ATT/MW on a current basis. In addition, in June 1984, a booking classification error occurred between intrastate and interstate access, and was subsequently corrected in July 1984. July 1984 net operating income with the above corrections was \$717,000.

\*\* ATT/MW was formed on January 1, 1984 due to divestiture of the Bell System by agreement between the Department of Justice and AT&T.

TELEPHONE RATES  
NORTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

| Rate Group         | Base Rate Area |                    |                        |              | Semi-Public | Agri-Business | Service Station |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
|                    | Business 1     | Residence 1 $\phi$ | Residence 2 $\phi\phi$ | Residence 4* |             |               |                 |
| A(B) 1-1,000       | \$23.60        | \$11.00            | \$ 6.60                |              | \$23.60     | \$16.85       | \$6.65          |
| C(D) 1,001-5,000   | 26.00          | 11.70              | 7.15                   | \$6.50       | 26.00       | 17.55         | 6.85            |
| E(F) 5,001-20,000  | 28.80          | 12.50              | 7.90                   | 6.95         | 28.80       | 18.35         | 7.10            |
| G(H) 20,001-45,000 | 32.95          | 13.70              | 8.90                   | 7.85         | 32.95       | 19.55         | 7.40            |
| I 45,001-60,000    | 34.75          | 14.20              | 9.35                   | 8.25         | 34.75       | 20.05         | 7.55            |

\* Service is obsolete

$\phi$  For exchanges where Conserver's Service is available, add \$1.00

$\phi\phi$  For exchanges where Conserver's Service is available, add \$4.15

NOTE: Rates are for access to network only; set charge is additional

(As of 8-1-85)

SOUTH DAKOTA

Rate Groups based on total terminals (less public and company office main stations), available in local service calling area (including E.A.S. points).

14 Group "A(B)" Exchange (1-1,000)

|             |        |                    |
|-------------|--------|--------------------|
| Bonesteel   | Hecla* | Timber Lake        |
| Bridgewater | Murdo  | Tripp              |
| Burke       | Newell | Tyndall            |
| Canistota   | Onida  | Wessington Springs |
| Elk Point   | Presho |                    |

57 Group "C(D)" Exchange (1,001-5,000)

|                     |                      |             |
|---------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Alcester            | Howard-Carthage      | Reliance    |
| Arlington           | Hudson               | Reville     |
| Belle Fourche       | Ipswich*             | Roscoe*     |
| Bowdle*             | Lake Andes-Pickstown | Roslyn      |
| Bradley             | Lake Preston         | Salem       |
| Bristol             | Lemmon               | Selby       |
| Britton             | Marion               | Sisseton    |
| Canton-Fairview     | McIntosh             | Sturgis     |
| Centerville         | Milbank              | Summit      |
| Chamberlain         | Miller               | Veblen      |
| Clark-Raymond       | Mobridge             | Vermillion  |
| Clearfield          | Morristown           | Viborg      |
| Colman              | Nisland              | Volga-Bruce |
| DeSmet              | Oldham-Ramona        | Wagner      |
| Doland*             | Parkston             | Waubay      |
| Eureka*             | Peever               | Webster     |
| Flandreau           | Pierpont             | Wilmot      |
| Gettysburg-Lebanon* | Platte-Geddes        | Winner      |
| Gregory             | Redfield             | Witten      |

\*Exchanges where Conserver's Service is Available

25 Group "E(F)" Exchange (5,001-20,000)

|            |                    |               |
|------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Aberdeen*  | Iroquois           | South Shore   |
| Castlewood | Lake Norden        | Spearfish     |
| Cavour     | Lead               | Tabor         |
| Cresbard*  | Lesterville        | Watertown     |
| Deadwood   | Madison            | Whitewood     |
| Florence   | Mellette*          | Willow Lake   |
| Frederick* | Mitchell           | Bryant-Wolsey |
| Hayti      | Pierre-Ft. Pierre* | Yankton       |
| Huron      |                    |               |

3 Group "G(H)" Exchanges (20,001-45,000)

|         |           |             |
|---------|-----------|-------------|
| Hermosa | Hill City | Rapid City* |
|---------|-----------|-------------|

2 Group "I" Exchanges (45,001-60,000)

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| Harrisburg-Tea | Sioux Falls* |
|----------------|--------------|

\*Exchanges where Conserver's Service is available.

CONSUMER SERVICES AND COMPLAINTS SECTION:

The consumer services and complaint section has the primary responsibility for consumer relations, communications and problem solving. Upon receipt of telephoned and written inquiries, complaints, and comments from consumers, a staff member will initiate an investigation on the consumer's behalf to find a satisfactory resolution to both the consumer and the utility company. In many instances the consumer will have first contacted the utility company and simply wishes further assistance. This section keeps a record of all such complaints and their resolutions for tabulations and preparation of statistical summaries, which are included in this section of the annual report.

SUMMARY OF CONSUMER COMPLAINTS RECEIVED:

| <u>YEAR</u> | <u>ELECTRIC</u> | <u>GAS</u> | <u>TELEPHONE</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|------------------|--------------|
| FY1985      | 385**           | 232        | 906*             | 1,523        |

\*Included within the telephone consumer complaints for FY1985 have been 546 "Shell-Phone" complaints filed during the Commission's investigation on Docket #F-3475. This docketed case was opened by the Commission in February, 1984 and is the investigation into the matter of the purchase of telephone plastic housings/"shells" by telephone customers who, prior to November 17, 1980, thought they were purchasing the entire decorator telephone when, in accordance with the tariff filed with the Commission, the inside working components remained the property of Northwestern Bell Telephone Company. In an order approving stipulation and agreement dated January 2, 1985, the Commission allowed the offering of \$55 per "shell phone" settlement to customers. A variety of litigation and correct mailing information has delayed the termination of this docketed case. At FY1985 year end this case remains active.

\*\*Included within the electric consumer complaints for FY1985 were 89 complaints from Iowa Public Service (IPS) customers relating to a rate case during this reporting period plus some confusion over a Purchase Gas Adjustment approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES OF SOUTH DAKOTA  
TITLE 20, ARTICLE 10 PUBLIC UTILITIES:

The Commission, investor-owned utilities, and interested consumer groups have approved and promulgated rules for telephone, gas, and electric companies in South Dakota. These rules include allowing for a penalty for late payment of bills, as well as a carrying charge. A gas and electric consumer has twenty days to pay his bill from the day the bill is issued. If he fails to pay within this time frame a disconnect notice is issued, allowing ten days to remit the amount of the bill to avoid termination of his service. Telephone customers are allowed a payment period of fifteen days. Gas and

electric customers are allowed thirty additional days to pay their bills in the winter months to avoid disconnection of service. When credit has not been established by a customer a deposit may be required. Interest is earned on the deposit at a rate of 7% and is to be automatically returned to the customer after one year provided there have been no late payments.

During the end of FY1985 and through the start of FY1986 the Commission was involved in two significant activities involving its administrative rules governing consumer rights. These activities were separate yet concurrent.

The Commission completed a comprehensive revision of its administrative rules in accordance with SDCL 1-26. The rules, as revised, will be effective in November 1986. There have been publicly advertised and open hearings on these proposed rules changes. In addition, the Commission's rules, as revised, are being reviewed through the "Rules Sunset" procedure as mandated by SDCL 1-26B-2. This "Rules Sunset" process continues through the 1986 Legislative Session. At the time of the compilation of this annual report, these two rules activities continue but are not completed.

#### STATISTICS NARRATIVE:

The following two pages of statistical information is the Monthly Comparison of Electric, Natural Gas and Telephone Complaints for FY1985. Also, for the time period of FY1985 the two pages of reports entitled "Electric, Natural Gas and Telephone Consumer Complaints by Category" are included in this report section.

MONTHLY COMPARISON OF ELECTRIC, NATURAL GAS AND TELEPHONE COMPLAINTS FOR FY 1985

| <u>Electric Companies:</u>          | JULY      | AUG       | SEPT      | OCT       | NOV       | DEC       | JAN       | FEB       | MAR       | APR       | MAY       | JUNE       | TOTALS     |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|
| Black Hills Power & Light           | 4         | 6         | 3         | 1         | 3         | 6         | 7         | 11        | 8         | 5         | 5         | 1          | 60         |
| Iowa Public Service                 | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 1         | 2         | 1         | 89         | 95         |
| Montana-Dakota Utilities<br>Company | 2         | 3         | 1         | 1         | 1         | 2         | 2         | 4         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 1          | 18         |
| Northern States Power               | 3         | 1         | 4         | 5         | 2         | 3         | 1         | 3         | 3         | 4         | 1         | 2          | 32         |
| Northwestern Public Service         | 7         | 7         | 8         | 12        | 7         | 7         | 5         | 36        | 14        | 10        | 4         | 7          | 124        |
| Otter Tail Power                    | 4         | 2         | 1         | 2         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 2         | 5         | 1         | 0          | 17         |
| Unregulated                         | 2         | 2         | 3         | 2         | 0         | 4         | 3         | 6         | 6         | 3         | 4         | 5          | 40         |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                       | <b>22</b> | <b>21</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>22</b> | <b>19</b> | <b>60</b> | <b>35</b> | <b>29</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>105</b> | <b>386</b> |

Natural Gas Companies:

|                                     |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |            |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Iowa Public Service                 | 2         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 2         | 18        | 0         | 4         | 5         | 0         | 0         | 32         |
| Minnegasco                          | 2         | 4         | 3         | 6         | 5         | 1         | 5         | 3         | 1         | 5         | 1         | 2         | 38         |
| Montana-Dakota Utilities<br>Company | 9         | 8         | 6         | 4         | 9         | 5         | 10        | 11        | 4         | 14        | 6         | 6         | 92         |
| Northwestern Public Service         | 6         | 3         | 3         | 8         | 4         | 3         | 2         | 13        | 11        | 6         | 3         | 8         | 70         |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                       | <b>19</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>19</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>35</b> | <b>27</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>30</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>232</b> |



MONTHLY COMPARISON OF ELECTRIC, NATURAL GAS AND TELEPHONE COMPLAINTS FOR FY 1985, CONT.

| <u>Telephone Companies:</u>             | JULY | AUG | SEPT | OCT | NOV | DEC | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUNE | TOTALS |
|---|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|--------|
| AT&T Communications<br>of the Mid West  | 0    | 0   | 0    | 1   | 1   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0    | 3      |
| Bison State                             | 2    | 0   | 0    | 1   | 0   | 1   | 0   | 1   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 1    | 7      |
| Northwestern Bell<br>Telephone Company* | 37   | 43  | 42   | 54  | 26  | 32  | 41  | 35  | 34  | 37  | 353 | 91   | 825*   |
| Unregulated                             | 7    | 11  | 11   | 6   | 5   | 5   | 6   | 6   | 3   | 4   | 2   | 5    | 71     |
| TOTALS                                  | 46   | 54  | 53   | 62  | 32  | 39  | 47  | 42  | 38  | 41  | 355 | 97   | 906    |
| <br>                                    |      |     |      |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |      |        |
| FISCAL YEAR TOTAL                       | 87   | 90  | 85   | 105 | 63  | 72  | 101 | 129 | 93  | 100 | 381 | 218  | 1524   |

\*The Commission opened Docket F-3475 in February, 1984, to conduct an investigation into the matter of the purchase of telephone shells by Northwestern Bell Telephone Company customers. This case has carried over from FY1984. During FY1985 the Commission received a total of 546 complaints from these NWB "shell-phone" customers.

ELECTRIC, NATURAL GAS AND TELEPHONE CONSUMER COMPLAINTS BY CATEGORY FOR FISCAL YEAR 1985

| <u>Electric Companies:</u>      | <u>Meter</u> | <u>Want Service</u> | <u>Deposit or Disconnect</u> | <u>Service Improvement</u> | <u>Boundary or Territory</u> | <u>Tariff or Billing</u> | <u>Rate Increase</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Black Hills Power & Light       | 2            | 2                   | 43                           |                            |                              | 13                       |                      | 60           |
| Iowa Public Service Company     |              |                     | 3                            |                            |                              | 3                        | 89                   | 95           |
| Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.    |              |                     | 4                            |                            |                              | 11                       | 3                    | 18           |
| Northern States Power Company   | 2            | 2                   | 17                           | 1                          | 1                            | 9                        |                      | 32           |
| Northwestern Public Service Co. | 1            | 6                   | 71                           | 20                         |                              | 21                       | 5                    | 124          |
| Otter Tail Power Company        |              | 1                   | 5                            |                            | 1                            | 10                       |                      | 17           |
| Unregulated Companies           | 2            | 3                   | 18                           | 1                          | 4                            | 11                       | 1                    | 40           |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                   | <b>7</b>     | <b>14</b>           | <b>161</b>                   | <b>22</b>                  | <b>6</b>                     | <b>78</b>                | <b>98</b>            | <b>386</b>   |

Natural Gas Companies:

|                              |          |           |            |          |          |           |          |            |
|------------------------------|----------|-----------|------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|------------|
| Iowa Public Service Company  |          |           | 11         |          |          | 21*       |          | 32         |
| Minnegasco                   | 2        | 3         | 6          | 2        |          | 25        |          | 38         |
| Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. | 1        | 8         | 49         | 1        | 1        | 28        | 4        | 92         |
| Northwestern Public Service  | 1        | 3         | 48         | 1        |          | 15        | 2        | 70         |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                | <b>4</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>114</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>89</b> | <b>6</b> | <b>232</b> |

\*18 were inquiries concerning the Purchase Gas Adjustment approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

ELECTRIC, NATURAL GAS AND TELEPHONE CONSUMER COMPLAINTS BY CATEGORY FOR FISCAL YEAR 1985 CONT.

| <u>Telephone Companies:</u>        | <u>Meter</u> | <u>Want Service</u> | <u>Deposit or Disconnect</u> | <u>Service Improvement</u> | <u>Boundary or Territory</u> | <u>Tariff or Billing</u> | <u>Rate Increase</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| AT&T Communications of the Midwest |              |                     |                              |                            |                              | 2                        | 1                    | 3            |
| Bison State                        |              | 1                   | 2                            |                            |                              | 4                        |                      | 7            |
| Northwestern Bell                  |              | 21                  | 90                           | 17                         | 2                            | 676**                    | 19                   | 825          |
| Unregulated Companies              |              | 14                  | 2                            | 10                         | 4                            | 40                       | 1                    | 71           |
| TOTALS                             |              | <u>36</u>           | <u>94</u>                    | <u>27</u>                  | <u>6</u>                     | <u>722</u>               | <u>21</u>            | <u>906</u>   |
| ELECTRIC, GAS & TELEPHONE TOTALS   | <u>11</u>    | <u>64</u>           | <u>369</u>                   | <u>53</u>                  | <u>13</u>                    | <u>889</u>               | <u>125</u>           | <u>1524</u>  |

\*\*The Commission opened Docket F-3474 in February, 1984 to conduct an investigation into the matter of the purchase of telephone shells by Northwestern Bell Telephone Company customers. This case has carried over from FY1984. During FY1985 the Commission received a total of 546 complaints from these NWB "shell-phone" customers.

ENGINEERING SECTION:

The Engineering Section plans and administers the development and implementation of engineering programs to insure that all utilities regulated by the Commission adhere to the established standards of service and safety adopted by the Commission. Major areas of activity include: review of energy conversion and transmission facility siting applications, evaluating electric and natural gas miscellaneous tariffs and cogeneration tariffs, preparation of territorial maps, and development of engineering related evidence for Commission proceedings.

The amount of electric energy sold by the six investor-owned electric utilities to their retail customers increased by approximately 80 million Kilowatt hours for a 3% increase during calendar year 1984. At the same time the annual average number of retail customers increased by 0.5 percent or 780 customers.

Natural gas sales for the four investor-owned gas utilities increased by approximately 1.3 million MCF during calendar year 1984. This amounted to a 6 percent increase. The annual average number of retail customers increased by 1,064 customers or 1 percent.

There were no new energy conversion or transmission facilities constructed during FY1984. Construction began on 33 miles of 230 KV transmission line during FY1984 and should be finished during FY1985. Approximately 3,600 miles of transmission lines are in operation in South Dakota ranging in capacity from 115KV line to a 345KV line. Investor-owned Utilities owned and operated 24% of these lines.

During the FY 83-84 biennium, the Engineering Section was involved with the following docketed Commission proceedings:

Docket F-3371

Nebraska Public Power District

Application for a permit to construct approximately 233 miles of a 500KV single circuit transmission line and associated facilities from a point on the North Dakota-South Dakota border 2.5 miles east of the Brown-Marshall County line to a crossing of the Gavins Point Dam west of Yankton, South Dakota.

Filed: January 14, 1981.

Disposition: On May 20, 1985, Nebraska Public Power District filed with the Commission a Notice of Voluntary Dismissal of Further Proceedings. On May 28, 1985 the Commission granted Nebraska Public Power District's request for dismissal of the MANDAN permit proceeding and the docket was closed.

Docket F-3237

Investigation of the implementation of certain requirements of Title II of the Public Utilities Regulatory Policy Act of 1978 regarding cogeneration and small power production.

Filed: October 31, 1980

Disposition: The Commission's investigation in this matter began on October 31, 1980. Public hearings were commenced in Pierre on January 6, 1982. On December 14, 1982 the Commission issued a Decision and Order in this matter which set terms for the filing of tariff sheets providing for the purchase and sale of electrical energy and capacity between cogeneration and small power production facilities and the electric utility company. The required tariffs were filed and subsequently approved in January, 1985.

Docket F-3491

Black Hills Power and Light Company

Application for a permit to construct approximately 33 miles of single circuit 230 KV transmission line and associated facilities from a point on the Wyoming-South Dakota border, three miles north of Dewey, South Dakota to an existing substation on the west edge of Hot Springs, South Dakota.

Filed: July 20, 1984

Disposition: A public hearing was held on August 28, 1984, in Hot Springs. On September 27, 1984, Black Hills Power and Light filed an Amended Application. A formal evidentiary hearing was held on December 6, 1984. On January 11, 1985 the Commission issued an order granting the permit subject to certain terms and conditions.

The Engineering Section was also involved in evaluating a number of electric and natural gas miscellaneous tariff and cogeneration tariff filings, and master metering variance requests.

ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION LINES OPERATING IN SOUTH DAKOTA  
AS OF JUNE 30, 1985

|   | 115KV Line*<br>Number<br>of<br>Miles | 161KV Line*<br>Number<br>of<br>Miles | 230KV*<br>Number<br>of<br>Miles | 230KV*<br>Double<br>Circuit<br>Number<br>of<br>Miles | 345KV*<br>Number<br>of<br>Miles | 345KV*<br>Double<br>Circuit<br>Number<br>of<br>Miles |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|
| Basin Electric Power Company,<br>1717 East Interstate Avenue<br>Bismarck, ND 58501    |                                      |                                      | 14                              |  | 270                             |  |
| Black Hills Power & Light Co.<br>P. O. Box 1400<br>Rapid City, SD 57709               | 4                                    |                                      | 154                             |  |                                 |  |
| Montana-Dakota Utilities<br>400 North Fourth Street<br>Bismarck, ND 58501             | 85                                   |                                      | 40                              |  |                                 |  |
| Nebraska Public Power Company<br>1414 15th Street<br>Columbus, NE 68601               | 40                                   |                                      |                                 |  |                                 |  |
| Northern States Power Company<br>414 Nicollet Mall<br>Minneapolis, MN 55401           | 162                                  | 11                                   |                                 |  |                                 |  |
| Northwestern Public Service Co.<br>500 Northwestern Natl. Bk Bldg.<br>Huron, SD 57350 | 320                                  |                                      | 23                              |  |                                 | 5  |
| Otter Tail Power Company<br>South Cascade Street<br>Fergus Falls, MN 56537            | 12                                   |                                      | 16                              |  |                                 |  |
| Western Area Power Admin.<br>P. O. Box EGY<br>Billings, MT 59101                      | 1260                                 |                                      | 369                             | 605  | 210                             |  |

\*Approximate Values

Pipelines bring natural gas and petroleum products to South Dakota. There are 1,129 miles of natural gas pipelines and 554 miles of petroleum product pipelines in operation in South Dakota.

PIPELINES OPERATING IN SOUTH DAKOTA  
DURING FY 1984

| <u>COMPANY</u>  | <u>ROUTE MILES</u> | <u>LOCATION</u>   |
|---|--------------------|---|
| <b>NATURAL GAS:</b>   |                    |   |
| Williston Basin*  | 299                | From the junction of the North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana Borders southward to Rapid City connecting the cities of Spearfish, Lead, Deadwood and Sturgis.   |
| (*These natural gas pipelines were formerly operated by Montana-Dakota Utilities. They are now operated by Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline Company a subsidiary of Montana-Dakota Utilities Resources Group Inc.) |                    |   |
| Northern Natural Gas  | 650                | From the Nebraska-South Dakota border near Ponca, Nebraska northward to Sioux Falls, then westward to Aberdeen with connections to the cities of Brookings, Watertown, Huron, Mitchell, and Yankton and additional connections to smaller towns along this route. |
| Northern Border   | 180                | From the North Dakota-South Dakota border north of Eureka, South Dakota to the Minnesota-South Dakota border near Astoria, South Dakota.  |
| <b>PETROLEUM PRODUCTS:</b>  |                    |   |
| Knaeb Pipeline Company  | 314                | From East of Yankton to north of Fredrick, South Dakota.  |
| Wyco Pipeline Company   | 95                 | From the southwest corner of South Dakota to Rapid City.  |
| Williams Pipeline Company   | 110                | From southwest of Clear Lake to Watertown, from east of Dell Rapids to Sioux Falls and from near Alcester to Sioux Falls.   |

The 43 energy conversion facilities operating in South Dakota have a generating capacity of approximately 2434 megawatts of electricity. Investor-owned utilities own and operate facilities in South Dakota with a generating capacity of approximately 792 megawatts. Sixty percent of the total megawatt generating capacity is owned and operated by the United States Corps of Engineers on the Missouri River dam system.

During calendar year 1984 there were no generating plant additions. Two small diesel fuel internal combustion plants were retired.

ENERGY CONVERSION FACILITIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA  
FOR PERIOD FY 1979-1981

| Company  | Plant           |                | Generation    |          |      |
|--|-----------------|----------------|---------------|----------|------|
|  | Name            | Location       | Capacity (MW) | Status   | Date |
| OTP-NWPS-MDU   | Big Stone       | Big Stone City | 437           | Existing | 1975 |
| OTP  | Lake Preston #1 | Lake Preston   | 24            | Existing | 1978 |
| MDU  | Mobridge        | Mobridge       | 3.4           | Existing | 1947 |
| BHP&L  | Kirk            | Lead           | 33.75         | Existing | 1961 |
| BHP&L  | Ben French #1   | Rapid City     | 25            | Existing | 1961 |
| BHP&L  | Ben Fr Diesel   | Rapid City     | 10            | Existing | 1965 |
| BHP&L  | Ben French      |                |               |          |      |
|  | Gas Turbine     | Rapid City     | 100           | Existing | 1979 |
| NSP  | Pathfinder      | Sioux Falls    | 75            | Existing | 1969 |
| NWPS   | Huron           | Huron          | 12.5          | Existing | 1961 |
| NWPS   | Yankton-New     | Yankton        | 11.5          | Existing | 1975 |
| NWPS   | Aberdeen        | Aberdeen       | 22.6          | Existing | 1978 |
| NWPS   | Armour          | Armour         | 4.6           | Existing | 1936 |
| NWPS   | Chamberlain     | Chamberlain    | 7.2           | Existing | 1948 |
| NWPS   | Clark           | Clark          | 2.75          | Existing | 1970 |
| NWPS   | Faulkton        | Faulkton       | 2.75          | Existing | 1969 |
| NWPS   | Highmore        | Highmore       | 2.0           | Existing | 1948 |
| NWPS   | Redfield        | Redfield       | 4.1           | Existing | 1962 |
| NWPS   | Webster         | Webster        | 2.8           | Existing | 1931 |
| NWPS   | Yankton-Old     | Yankton        | 7.6           | Existing | 1980 |
| NWPS   | Mobile Unit     | N/A            | 0.5           | Existing | 1955 |
| Arlington Mun Light & Pwr Basin Electric Power Cooperative Inc | Arlington       | Arlington      | 1.0           | Existing | 1949 |
|  | Spirit Mound    | Vermillion     | 120           | Existing | 1979 |
| Bryant Light & Pwr Plant                                       | Bryant          | Bryant         | 1.0           | Existing | 1951 |
| Elk Point Mun Light Plant                                      | Elk Point       | Elk Point      | 4.0           | Existing | 1946 |
| Estelline Mun Light & Pwr                                      | Estelline       | Estelline      | 4.0           | Existing | 1950 |
| Faith Wtr Light & Pwr Plt                                      | Faith           | Faith          | 3.0           | Existing | 1959 |
| Flandreau Mun Light & Power Plant                              | Flandreau       | Flandreau      | 4.0           | Existing |      |
| City of Howard   | Howard          | Howard         | 2.0           | Existing | 1944 |
| City of Madison Electric Processing System                     | Madison         | Madison        | 7.0           | Existing | 1947 |
| Onida Mun Light & Pwr Sys                                      | Onida           | Onida          | 0.5           | Existing | 1949 |
| Parker Mun Light Plant   | Parker          | Parker         | 2.0           | Existing | 1947 |
| Rosebud Elec Coop, Inc   | Gregory         | Gregory        | 1.0           | Existing | 1949 |
| Tyndall Light & Water Plt                                      | Tyndall         | Tyndall        | 3.0           | Existing | 1949 |
| City of Vermillion   | Vermillion      | Vermillion     | 4.0           | Existing | 1947 |
| Wessington Springs Mun Electric & Light                        | Wess Springs    | Wess Springs   | 3.0           | Existing | 1954 |
| Winner Mun Utilities   | Winner          | Winner         | 2.0           | Existing | 1947 |
| Don Jones  | White River     | White River    | 2.0           | Existing | 1924 |
| US Corps of Eng (USCE)   | Fort Randall    | Pickstown      | 320           | Existing | 1956 |
| US Corps of Eng (USCE)   | Oahe            | Pierre         | 595           | Existing | 1962 |
| US Army Eng  | Big Bend        | Fort Thompson  | 464           | Existing | 1966 |
| US Army Eng  | Gavins Point    | Yankton        | 100           | Existing | 1957 |