



600 Market Street W.
Huron, SD 57350-1500
Toll Free: 800-245-6977
Facsimile: (605)-353-7519
www.northwesternenergy.com

December 8, 2011

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen, Executive Director
S. D. Public Utilities Commission
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Re: NorthWestern Corporation Proposed Contract With Deviation PUC Docket EL11-__

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

With this letter, NorthWestern Corporation ("NorthWestern" or the "Company"), doing business as NorthWestern Energy, is filing with the Commission a proposed electric contract with deviation. Pursuant to ARSD 20:10:13:39, the Company states:

(1) The documents submitted with this filing include:

- The Application for Tariff Change and Report in Support of Tariff Filing of NorthWestern (the "Report"), pursuant to ARSD 20:10:13:26;
- The proposed revised tariff schedule, Section 4, Sheet 1. 11th Revised
- A map of the proposed route
- Schedules detailing the cost of the project
- A copy of the contract between NorthWestern and the Customer.

(2) The proposed effective date for the new tariff is December 20, 2011. The Company requests the Commission approve this contract with deviation on less than thirty day's notice. The Company plans to complete construction as soon as it receives PUC approval.

(3) The names and addresses of those to who copies of the rate schedule have been mailed:

Mr. Bryan Kroeplin
Box 404
Highmore, SD 57345

(4) Brief description of the proposed changes in rates:

NorthWestern is proposing the contract with deviation to extend three-phase electric distribution service to the Kroeplin bin site. NorthWestern will install, or arrange for the installation of approximately 1,700 feet of underground three phase primary to the bin site.

The estimated cost of the project is \$46,162. The customer's projected load increase is stated in the contract. The customer has been given credit for the revenue from the load increase and has reduced their contribution to \$16,844. Exhibit B reflects the calculation of the contribution amount. The Customer agrees to pay the actual project costs within 14 days of project completion. At the end of three years, the customers usage will be reviewed to determine if the actual usage is within 20% of the projected usage. Additional billings or credits will be calculated at that time.

(5) Reasons for the proposed changes:

The reason for the proposed change is the customer's need for electric service for their proposed bin site.

(6) Number of customers whose cost of service will be affected and annual changes in cost of service to such customers:

Bryan Kroeplin will be the only customer impacted by this filing.

Sincerely yours,

Jeff Decker
Regulatory Analyst