

NorthWestern[™] Energy

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October 4, 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. 9th 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 October 25, 2011. The Company requests the Commission approve this contract with deviation on less than thirty day’s notice. The Company plans to begin 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. Norman Hettich
34545 145th St
Roscoe, SD 57471

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

NorthWestern is proposing the contract with deviation to extend electric distribution service to the new Hettich farm site. NorthWestern will install, or arrange for the installation of two phases from about 8,100 feet east of the Hettich farm site. Further, the installation will include, approximately 700 feet of underground three phase primary to the Hettich farm site.

The estimated cost of the project is \$62,043. This project is for a relocation of the Hettich farm site from its current location. Since the project is for a replacement or relocation of existing load from this customer, the customer will pay for the entire cost of the project. The Customer agrees to pay the actual project costs within 14 days of project completion.

(5) Reasons for the proposed changes:

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

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

Norman Hettich will be the only customer impacted by this filing.

Sincerely yours,

Jeff Decker
Regulatory Analyst