



EXHIBIT A
REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT

COMES NOW, NorthWestern Corporation, doing business as NorthWestern Energy ("NorthWestern" or the "Company"), and pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:41, requests confidential treatment as follows:

- 1) The documents for which confidential treatment is requested are the Electric Distribution Service Agreement between NorthWestern and Ag Processing Inc a cooperative (the "*Customer*"), effective April 3, 2017 (the "*Agreement*" attached as Exhibit B), and confidential work papers attached as Exhibit C;
- 2) The Company requests that such confidential treatment be afforded the Agreement and confidential work papers indefinitely, or, at a minimum, until the conclusion of the term of the Agreement;
- 3) The name, address and phone number of the persons to be contacted regarding the confidentiality request are:

Jeff Decker
Specialist Regulatory
NorthWestern Energy
600 Market St. West
Huron, SD 57350
(605) 353-8315

Pamela Bonrud
Director Government and Regulatory Affairs
NorthWestern Energy
3010 W. 69th Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57108
(605) 978-2900

- 4) The grounds for confidentiality are that the Agreement and exhibits to this filing provide proprietary information concerning both the Company and the Customer. Sharing this information with third parties could provide competitive advantages to the competitors of NorthWestern and the Customer.
- 5) As a factual basis in support of this request, please see the response to item 4) above.