

GE 98-003





RECEIVED

001 22 1998

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Direct Dial 605-353-7605

October 21, 1998

Mr. William Bullard  
Executive Director  
SD Public Utilities Commission  
State Capitol Building  
500 E. Capitol Ave  
Pierre SD 57501-5070

Re: Proposed Tariff Sheets - Section 6 Gas Rate Book and Section 6 Electric Rate Book

Dear Mr. Bullard:

Enclosed for filing are an original and ten copies of proposed tariff sheets to be included in Section 6 of NorthWestern's gas rate book and Section 6 of NorthWestern's electric rate book replacing the current tariff sheets. The following information is submitted pursuant to Commission's Order in Docket No. F-3563:

1. Background

NorthWestern has adopted a new logo for the company. NorthWestern wishes to put the new logo on its bill.

NorthWestern has also made some minor wording changes in its continuing effort to make its bill more understandable by the customers. NorthWestern will from time to time ask its customers for its input as to how NorthWestern can improve its bill to make it more consumer friendly.

2. Explanation

a. Class of Service Affected: The proposed Section tariff sheets in the gas rate book and the electric rate book affect all customers of NorthWestern.

b. The Proposed Tariff Sheets Are:

1. Electric

- 6<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 1
- 4<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 1.1

- First Page of Bill
- Reverse Side of Bill

2. Gas

6<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 1  
4<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 1.1

First Page of Bill  
Reverse Side of Bill

c. The proposed Section 6 tariff sheets for the gas rate book and the electric rate book would apply to all customers of NorthWestern.

d. The proposed tariff sheets would apply to all of NorthWestern's gas and electric service areas.

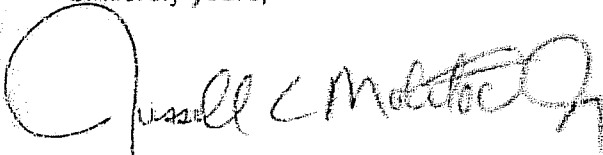
e. There are no special conditions, limitations, qualifications, or restrictions, except those provided in the applicable tariffs.

3. NorthWestern does not anticipate any financial impact from these proposed tariff changes.

4. NorthWestern does not expect that these proposed tariff changes will have a significant impact upon its other tariffs or upon future rate cases.

NorthWestern respectfully requests that these proposed tariff changes be effective as of November 16, 1998. If any other information is requested by the Commission or the Commission's Staff, please contact me.

Sincerely yours,



Russell C. Molstad, Jr.  
Corporate Attorney  
& Ass't Secretary

ss  
enclosures

cc: Warren Lotsberg  
Rod Leyendecker  
Dave Monaghan  
Alan Dietrich  
Steve Simons  
John Armstrong

ELECTRIC

**SAMPLE FORM**

**NORTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE  
HURON  
SOUTH DAKOTA**

Section No. 8  
Sheet No. 1  
Canceling 5th Revised Sheet No. 1

# NorthWestern

Energy Costs		Financial Balance	
Electric Cost Per Day	\$ 1.10	Customer Deposits	\$ 100.00
Gas Cost Per Day	\$ 1.20	Bad Debt	\$ 10.00
<b>Information Center</b>		Accounts Payable	\$ 50.00
		Accounts Receivable	\$ 20.00
		Inventory	\$ 10.00
		Prepaid Expenses	\$ 5.00
		Other Assets	\$ 5.00
		<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 200.00</b>
		Accounts Payable	\$ 100.00
		Accounts Receivable	\$ 50.00
		Inventory	\$ 20.00
		Prepaid Expenses	\$ 10.00
		Other Assets	\$ 20.00
		<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 200.00</b>
		Retained Earnings	\$ 0.00
		<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	<b>\$ 200.00</b>

A true and correct copy of the above information can be obtained by contacting the appropriate department.

We appreciate the opportunity to serve you and welcome your feedback. We invite you to contact us at your suggestions, comments, or questions at any time at 1-800-455-4555 or e-mail us at [advice@northwestern.com](mailto:advice@northwestern.com), or write us at 400 West 10th, NorthWestern, Huron, South Dakota 57331.

Date Filed: October 21, 1998

Effective Date: November 15, 1998

Michael J. Hanson  
General Manager

SAMPLE FORMS

NORTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE  
HURON  
SOUTH DAKOTA

Section No. 5  
Sheet No. 11  
Canceling 3rd Revised Sheet No. 11

Products and Services

Rate Code      Billing Cycle      Billing Period

Utility Billing Detail

Rate	Product	Service	Quantity	Unit	Rate	Amount	Tax	Total
1	Electric	Residential	1000	kwh	0.08	80.00	0.00	80.00
2	Gas	Residential	1000	cu ft	0.05	50.00	0.00	50.00
3	Water	Residential	1000	gal	0.02	20.00	0.00	20.00

Total Amount Due: \$150.00

This bill is subject to the terms and conditions of the contract between you and us.

We appreciate the opportunity to serve you and we hope you will find our service to be of the highest quality. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at 1-800-555-1234. We are committed to providing you with the best service possible.

Date Filed: October 11, 1998

Effective Date: November 15, 1998

Michael J. Higgins  
General Mgr. President & CEO

**GAS**



SAMPLE FORMS

NORTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE  
HURON  
SOUTH DAKOTA

Section No. 4  
6th Revised Sheet No. 1  
Canceling 5th Revised Sheet No. 1

# NorthWestern

Return this portion of the bill with your payment.  
Please direct inquiries to 1-800-838-4577 24 hours a day.

Account No. 123456789
Card No. 123456789
Phone Pay (if applicable) 432 123 45
Amount Paid

**RESIDENTIAL SERVICE CHARGE**

Energy Costs	Residential Service Charge Through Metering - Huron Area	Service Charge
Electric Cost Per Day \$ 0.00	<b>Electric Service</b>	\$ 12.00
Gas Cost Per Day \$ 0.00	Gas & Lighting	\$ 12.00
	Electric	\$ 12.00
	Gas	\$ 12.00
	<b>Total Service Charge</b>	\$ 48.00
	<b>Service Surcharges</b>	
	Power and Energy Balance	\$ 12.00
	Gas: Payment Suspended	\$ 12.00
	Gas: Utility Charge	\$ 12.00
	Gas: Energy Balance	\$ 12.00
	<b>Utility Meter Rental</b>	\$ 12.00
	<b>Recovery &amp; Services</b>	
	Cost of Fuel Charge	\$ 12.00
	Other Charge	\$ 12.00
	Other Charge	\$ 12.00
	<b>Adjustments</b>	\$ 12.00
	<b>Late Payment Fee</b>	\$ 12.00
	<b>Total Amount Due</b>	\$ 120.00

A late fee of \$1.00 per \$5 of the amount due by the due date will be assessed if the bill is not paid by the due date.

We appreciate the opportunity to serve you and are committed to providing the highest quality of service. If you have any questions or concerns, please call our toll-free number at 1-800-838-4577. We are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Date Filed: October 21, 1995

Effective Date: November 18, 1995

Michael J. Hanson  
Huron Area President & CEO

SAMPLE FORMS

NORTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE  
HURON  
SOUTH DAKOTA

Section No. 8  
Sheet No. 11  
Cover No. 11  
4th Revised  
3rd Revised  
Cancellation

Products and Services

City      Rate Class      Working Days      Season

Utility Billing Details

Rate	Product	Service	Rate Class	Working Days	Season	City	Rate
10	Electric	Residential	100	365	None	Huron	10.00
11	Gas	Residential	100	365	None	Huron	11.00
12	Water	Residential	100	365	None	Huron	12.00

This form for information only. All charges are subject to our final review and we reserve the right to adjust rates and services without notice.

We appreciate the opportunity to serve you and welcome your feedback. We want you to contact us with any questions, comments or concerns. You may call us at 1-800-444-4444 or write to us at 1000 North Lincoln Street, Huron, SD 57350. Please include your account number and address when contacting us. We will respond to you as quickly as possible.

View of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission at 1000 North Lincoln Street, Huron, SD 57350. Phone: 605-392-4444.

Date Filled: October 21, 1998

Effective Date: November 15, 1998

Michael J. Hannon  
Issued by: President & CEO

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
**WEEKLY FILINGS**

For the Period of October 16, 1998 through October 22, 1998

If you need a complete copy of a filing faxed, overnight expressed, or mailed to you, please contact Delaine Kolbo within five business days of this filing.  
Phone: 605-773-3705. Fax: 605-773-3809.

**GAS AND ELECTRIC**

**GE18-003** In the Matter of Application of Northwestern Public Service for approval of Revisions to its Natural Gas and Electric Tariff concerning modification of its customer bill

Application by Northwestern Public Service to revise its natural gas and electric tariff to incorporate changes to its customer bill. Northwestern Public Service has proposed to replace the logo on their customer bills with the new logo recently adopted. Minor wording changes on the bills have also been proposed in order to facilitate customer understanding of the bill.

Staff Attorney: Karen Gremer  
Staff Analyst: Dave Jacobson  
Date Filed: 10/22/98  
Intervention Deadline: N/A

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**TC98-183** In the Matter of the Complaint filed by Sheryl L. Klein, Valentine, Nebraska, against U S West Communications, Inc. Regarding Poor Service and Request To Have Lines Updated.

Complaint by Sheryl L. Klein vs U S West Communications, Inc. The Complainant outlines a series of service outages, repair difficulties, outdated service and staffing issues. The Complainant seeks the following relief: "We want the line fixed completely and permanently, so it functions at a 100% reliable level. We want this done now, before another winter sets in. We have been told several possible problems by U S West repairmen including aging lines and old systems. We do not know what the solution is, but want it found and implemented now. We ask that U S West be required to make whatever investment is necessary to fully remedy the problem. We also want to be reimbursed for a reasonable amount for the loss of phone service and the associated stress and hassles. We request \$200.00.

Staff Attorney: Camron Hosack  
Consumer Affairs: Leni Healy  
Date Filed: 10-08-98  
Intervention Deadline: N/A

TC98-184 In the Matter of the Complaint filed by JoAnn C. Klein, Valentine, Nebraska, against U S West Communications, Inc. Regarding Poor Service and Request To Have Lines Updated.

Complaint by JoAnn C. Klein vs. U S West Communications, Inc. The Complainant outlines a series of service outages, repair difficulties, outdated service, phantom calls, and staffing issues. The Complainant seeks the following relief "contact U S West and insist that our long continuation of poor service and outages be corrected. Also reimbursement or credit for days when phone lines have been out." Mrs. Klein also requests that her billing for 24 directory assistance calls and long distance calls which were not made by the Kleins be credited from their billing.

Staff Attorney: Camron Hoseck  
Consumer Affairs: Leni Healy  
Date Filed: 10-09-98  
Intervention Deadline: N/A

TC98-185 In the Matter of the Application of EQuality, Inc., for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Telecommunications Services in South Dakota.

Application of EQuality Inc. for a certificate of authority to provide intrastate telecommunications services in the state of South Dakota. EQuality proposes to offer 1+, 500 and travel card service.

Staff Attorney: Karen Cremer  
Staff Analyst: Harlan Best  
Date Filed: 10/19/98  
Intervention Deadline: 11/06/98

You may receive this listing and other PUC publications via our website or via internet e-mail.  
You may subscribe to the PUC mailing list at  
<http://www.state.sd.us/state/executive/puc/puc.htm>

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION BY  
NORTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF REVISIONS  
TO ITS NATURAL GAS AND ELECTRIC  
TARIFFS CONCERNING MODIFICATION OF  
ITS CUSTOMER BILL

ORDER APPROVING TARIFF  
REVISIONS  
GESS-003

On October 22, 1998, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from Northwestern Public Service Company (NWPS) requesting approval of changes in its tariff sheets for both the Gas and Electric Tariff Section. The application stated: "NWPS has adopted a new logo for the company. NWPS wishes to put the new logo on its bill. NWPS has also made some minor wording changes in its continuing effort to make its bill more understandable by the customers." The proposed Section tariff sheets in the gas rate book and the electric rate book affect all customers of NWPS. NWPS filed the following tariff sheets:

Electric

6th Revised Sheet No. 1                      First Page of Bill  
4th Revised Sheet No. 1 1                  Reverse Side of Bill

Gas

6th Revised Sheet No. 1                      First Page of Bill  
4th Revised Sheet No. 1 1                  Reverse Side of Bill

At its regularly scheduled meeting of November 3, 1998, the Commission discussed final approval of the application. Commission Staff recommended approval of the tariff revisions.

The Commission has jurisdiction over the matter pursuant to SDCR, Chapter 49-34A, specifically 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-11, 49-34A-12, and 49-34A-15. The Commission finds the tariff changes are just and reasonable and approved the revised tariffs. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED that NWPS' aforementioned tariffs are approved and shall be effective for service on and after November 10, 1998.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 10th day of November, 1998.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>	
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, as properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.	
By:	<u>Melanie Kaida</u>
Date:	<u>11/10/98</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg  
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson  
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Lana Schoenfelder  
LANA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner