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Director-Customer Communications
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Facsimile Transmittal Sheet

To:	<u>William Bullard</u>
Fax Number:	<u>605-773-3809</u>
Date:	<u>02/10/2000</u>
Number of Pages Including This Cover:	<u>1</u>

Comments:

In response to a request from the SDPUC, NorthWestern Public Service has changed the description on the gas portion of the bill to read "local delivery charge". In anticipation of customer questions regarding the change, we would like to print the following in the "Information Center" on the front of our bill:

"Local Delivery Charge"
on the back of this bill
replaces "atmospheric
pressure" description.
NO CHARGES HAVE CHANGED

Therefore, I am requesting that you waive the 30-day notification required in ruling 20:10:13:20. If you have any questions or comments, please give me a call at the number listed above. Thank you.

NOTICE OF CONFIDENTIALITY

The information contained in this facsimile transmission is confidential information which may contain information that is legally privileged and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. The information is intended solely for the use of the individual named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution or taking of any action in reliance on the contents of this facsimile transmission is strictly prohibited. If you have received this facsimile transmission in error, please notify us immediately by telephone or arrange for the return of the original transmission to us.

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

WEEKLY FILINGS

For the Period of February 10, 2000 through February 16, 2000

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

CONSUMER COMPLAINTS

CT00-036 In the Matter of the Complaint filed by Fred Prahel on behalf of Windows, Inc., DeSmet, South Dakota, against Inacom Communications, Inc. and U S WEST Communications, Inc. Regarding Unauthorized Switching of Services.

On February 10, 2000, the Commission received a complaint regarding unauthorized switching of service against Inacom Corp. and U S WEST. Windows, Inc. discovered that their phone service had been switched from 6 phone lines with hunting capabilities to the U S WEST Centrex 21 system on December 2, 1999. The complainant alleges Inacom obtained their signature to "verify that US West was the phone carrier for Windows, Inc." not to authorize a change in their telephone service. The complainant is requesting "to see this practice ended by taking away the licenses of the companies misrepresenting themselves in this manner and to prosecute persons representing these companies."

Staff Analyst: Heather Forney

Staff Attorney: Karen Cremer

Date Docketed: 02/10/00

Intervention Date: NA

CT00-037 In the Matter of the Complaint filed by Cheryl Plucker, Chancellor, South Dakota, against MCI WorldCom Regarding Unauthorized Switching of Services.

On February 11, 2000, the Commission received a complaint from Cheryl Plucker, Chancellor, South Dakota, against MCI regarding unauthorized switching of services. The complainant alleges that her long distance provider was switched to MCI without her authorization.

Staff Analyst: Keith Senger

Staff Attorney: Karen Cremer

Date Docketed: 02/14/2000

Intervention Date: N/A

EL00-003 In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of Waiver of Fuel Clause Rate 58 to Include Arbitration Costs.

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., petitions the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission for a waiver of Fuel Clause Rate 58. The waiver is

requested to allow the pass-through, in the fuel cost adjustment, of arbitration costs. The arbitration resulted in savings to retail customers.

Staff Analyst: Michele Farris
Staff Attorney: Camron Hoseck
Date Docketed: 02/10/00
Intervention Date: 03/03/00

EL00-004 In the Matter of the Filing by Northern States Power Company for Confirmation of Angus C. Anson Combustion Turbine Facility

Northern States Power Company seeks confirmation from the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission that proposed improvements to the Angus C. Anson Combustion Turbine Facility continues to meet the conditions upon which the permit, as ordered in Docket Number EL91-001 signed on May 18, 1993, was issued.

Staff Analyst: Michele Farris
Staff Attorney: Camron Hoseck
Date Docketed: 02/15/00
Intervention Date: 03/03/00

GE00-001 In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Public Service Company for Approval of Revised Bill Format.

Application by NorthWestern Public Service to revise customer bill text and accounting schedule form tariffs, to add notice on bills of the change and request for waiver of 30 day notice of change to the public.

Staff Analyst: Dave Jacobson
Staff Attorney: Karen Cremer
Date Docketed: 02/10/00
Intervention Deadline: NA

NG00-001 In the Matter of the Application of South Dakota Intrastate Pipeline Company to Recover Additional Costs.

On February 15, 2000, the Public Utilities Commission received a petition from South Dakota Intrastate Pipeline Company (SDIPC) seeking an amendment to its rate schedule to provide for an increase in its transportation charged to its only customer, Montana Dakota Utilities Company. SDIPC proposes to make the change in its rate effective as of April 1, 2000.

Staff Analyst: Heather Forney
Staff Attorney: Karen Cremer
Date Docketed: 02/15/00
Intervention Date: 03/03/00

TC00-012 In the Matter of the Filing by U S WEST Communications, Inc. for Approval of Revisions to its Exchange and Network Services Tariff.

On February 10, 2000, U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST) filed an application for approval of revisions to its exchange and network services tariff. The purpose of the filing is to clarify the meaning of a fully assisted operator call and a partially assisted operator call. Rates will not be increased by this filing.

Staff Analyst: Heather Forney
Staff Attorney: Camron Hoseck
Date Docketed: 02/10/00
Intervention Date: 03/03/00

TC00-013 In the Matter of the Application of Adelpia Business Solutions Operations, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange Services in South Dakota.

Adelpia Business Solutions Operations, Inc. is seeking a Certificate of Authority to provide resold and facilities-based local exchange telecommunication services in South Dakota. Adelpia does not intend to provide service in the territories of rural telecommunication companies.

Staff Analyst: Keith Senger
Staff Attorney: Camron Hoseck
Date Docketed: 02/10/00
Intervention Date: 03/3/00

TC00-014 In the Matter of the Application of Comm South Companies, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange Services in South Dakota.

Comm South Companies, Inc. seeks to provide resold basic local exchange telecommunication services in areas of South Dakota currently served by U S WEST Communications and any other relevant incumbent facilities-based LEC or other authorized local exchange carrier, excluding service areas of rural telephone companies. A majority of the applicant's customers are residential consumers who are unable to obtain local telecommunication services from other local exchange carriers due to credit problems or prior disconnection. Services will include local calling, access to 911 emergency and 800 number services to residential customers on a prepaid basis. Applicant does not permit its customers of its local service to access usage-based services, such as direct-dial long distance calls, collect calls, operator-assisted calls and third-number billed calls.

Staff Analyst: Keith Senger
Staff Attorney: Camron Hoseck
Date Docketed: 02/10/00
Intervention Date: 03/03/00

TC00-015 In the Matter of the Application of Shared Communications Services, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Telecommunications Services in South Dakota.

Shared Communications Services, Inc. (Shared) seeks a Certificate of Authority to provide resold interexchange telecommunications services. Shared intends to offer interLATA and intraLATA switched message toll service, 800, calling card, directory assistance and operator services throughout South Dakota.

Staff Analyst: Heather Forney
Staff Attorney: Camron Hoseck
Date Docketed: 02/14/00
Intervention Date: 03/03/00

TC00-016 In the Matter of the Application of TeleDistance, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Telecommunications Services in South Dakota.

Qwest Communications Corporation, LCI International Telecom Corp., Phoenix Network, Inc. and TeleDistance, Inc., all wholly-owned, indirect subsidiaries of Qwest Communications International Inc (the "Parties") filed a request for a Certificate of Authority for TeleDistance, Inc. to provide resold and facilities-based interexchange telecommunications services throughout South Dakota. TeleDistance, Inc. intends to offer retail and wholesale switched interLATA (and in certain instances intraLATA) long distance services (including direct dialed 1+ service and toll free service), retail and wholesale private line services, frame relay/ATM/IP transmission services, prepaid calling card services and operator services. The Parties also request that the Commission grant a waiver of Administrative Rules of South Dakota Chapter 20 10 34 02 01, governing unauthorized changes in carriers.

Staff Analyst: Michele Farris
Staff Attorney: Camron Hoseck
Date Docketed: 02/14/00
Intervention Date: 03/03/00

TC00-017 In the Matter of the Application of Pathnet, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange Services in South Dakota.

Pathnet, Inc. is seeking a Certificate of Authority to provide resold and facilities-based local exchange telecommunication services in South Dakota. Pathnet intends to provide point to point private line and data services. They do not plan to provide basic local dial tone services to end-users.

Staff Analyst: Keith Senger
Staff Attorney: Camron Hoseck
Date Docketed: 02/15/00
Intervention Date: 03/03/00

TC00-018 In the Matter of the Application of Pathnet, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Telecommunications Services in South Dakota.

Pathnet, Inc. is seeking a Certificate of Authority to provide resold and facilities-based interexchange telecommunication services in South Dakota. Pathnet intends to provide point to point private line and data services.

Staff Analyst: Keith Senger
Staff Attorney: Camron Hoseck
Date Docketed: 02/16/00
Intervention Date: 03/03/00

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February 17, 2000

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FEB 18 2000

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

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 and Docket No. F-3563:

1. Background

NorthWestern wishes to change the back of the bill to make the back of the bill more understandable by NorthWestern's customers.

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 Shares Are:

1. Electric

5th Revised Sheet No. 1.1

Reverse Side of Bill

2. Gas

5th Revised Sheet No. 1.1

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.

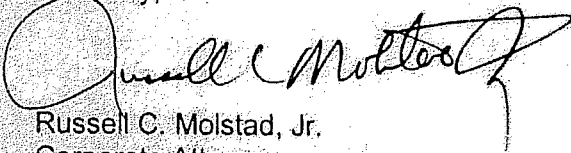
e. There are no special conditions, limitations, qualifications, or restrictions, except those provided in the applicable tariffs.

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 February 29, 2000. If any other information is requested by the Commission or the Commission's Staff, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Russell C. Molstad, Jr.
Corporate Attorney

ss
enclosures

cc: Warren Lotsberg
Rod Leyendecker
Donna Haeder
Kim Thompson-Rieger
Jeff Decker
Jana Hanson

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FEB 18 2000

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ELECTRIC

SAMPLE FORMS

**NORTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE
HURON
SOUTH DAKOTA**

Section No. 6
Sheet No. 1.1
Canceling 5th Revised
4th Revised Sheet No. 1.1

Products and Services

Monthly Fixed Charges

Other Charges

Utility Billing Detail

Rate	Read Code	Meter No.	Read			Meter Readings		Mult	Usage	Units	Amount	
			Mo	Da	Days	Current	Previous					
10	Elec Res Serv	Est	1037642	10	10	23	46043.00	44043.00	1	2000.00	KWH	
												99.99
												99.99
												99.99
												99.99
												99.99
81	Gas Res Serv	Est	2057806	10	10	23	3654.00	3554.00	1	100.00	CCF	
												99.99
												99.99
												99.99
												99.99
												99.99

Taxes State Sales Tax 9.99 City Sales Tax 9.99 Total Taxes 9.99

This page for information only. All charges are included in the total amount due on the cover page.

We appreciate the opportunity to serve you and welcome your feedback.

We invite you to contact us with your suggestions, concerns or questions 24 hours a day at 1-800-245-6977, email us at advocate@northwestern.com, or write us at P.O. Box 1318, Attention: Customer Advocate, Huron SD 57350. South Dakota customers with unresolved questions or concerns may contact the consumer affairs division of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission at 500 East Capital Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501, or by Telephone at 1-605-773-3201.

Date Filed: February 18, 2000

Bills on or after
Effective Date: February 29, 2000

Michael J. Hanson
Issued By: President & CEO

GAS

SAMPLE FORMS

**NORTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE
HURON
SOUTH DAKOTA**

Section No. 6
Sheet No. 1.1
Canceling 5th Revised
4th Revised Sheet No. 1.1

Products and Services

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Other Charges

Utility Billing Detail

Rate		Read Code	Meter No.	Read Mo	Read Da	Days	Meter Readings Current	Previous	Mult	Usage	Units	Amount
10	Elec Res Serv	Est	1037642	10	10	23	46043.00	44043.00	1	2000.00	KWH	
							Energy Charge					99.99
							Elec Fuel Purchase Power					99.99
										Service Total		99.99
81	Gas Res Serv	Est	2057806	10	10	23	3654.00	3554.00	1	100.00	CCF	
										100.00	Therm	
							Local Delivery Charge					99.99
							Purch Gas Commodity SD 81					99.99
										Service Total		99.99

Taxes State Sales Tax 9.99 City Sales Tax 9.99 Total Taxes 9.99

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Date Filed: February 18, 2000

Bills on or after
Effective Date: February 29, 2000

Michael J. Hanson
Issued By: President & CEO

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY) ORDER APPROVING
NORTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE) REVISED BILL FORMAT
COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF REVISED BILL)
FORMAT) GE00-001

On February 10, 2000, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from NorthWestern Public Service Company (NWPS) requesting approval for its proposed bill format changes. NWPS requested that the proposed bill tariff changes be made effective February 29, 2000, and NWPS also requested that the Commission waive ARSD 20:10:13:20. The revised tariffs are as follows:

Electric Tariff

Section No. 6

5th Revised Sheet No. 1.1

Canceling 4th Revised Sheet No. 1.1

Gas Tariff

Section No. 6

5th Revised Sheet No. 1.1

Canceling 4th Revised Sheet No. 1.1

At its regularly scheduled meeting of February 29, 2000, the Commission discussed final approval of the application. Commission Staff recommended approval of the bill format tariff sheets effective March 1, 2000, as well as waiver of ARSD 20:10:13:20.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-2, 49-34A-4, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, and 49-34A-10 and ARSD 20:10:17:03. The Commission finds the bill format changes to the customers' bills are just and reasonable and approved the changes. Further, the Commission finds that the revisions to the tariff are just and reasonable and shall be approved. The Commission also finds it is appropriate to grant the requested waiver of ARSD 20:10:13:20. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the above-referenced revised tariff schedules are approved and are effective for service rendered on and after March 1, 2000. It is further

ORDERED, that ARSD 20:10:13:20 shall be waived in this matter.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 6th day of March, 2000.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.

By: Alaine Kalbs

Date: 3/8/00

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner

April 10, 2000

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APR 11 2000

Mr. Dave Jacobson
S.D. Public Utilities Commission
500 East Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

Dear Dave:

Per your call to Kim Thompson-Rieger enclosed is the 5th revised Section No. 6, Sheet No. 1.1 with the effective date of March 1, 2000.

If you have any questions please give me a call.

Sincerely,

Jeff J. Decker / lak
Jeff J. Decker

JJD/lak

SAMPLE FORMS

NORTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE
HURON
SOUTH DAKOTA

Section No. 6
Sheet No. 1.1
Canceling 5th Revised
4th Revised Sheet No. 1.1

Products and Services

Monthly Fixed Charges

Other Charges

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Rate		Read Code	Meter No.	Read		Meter Readings		Mult	Usage	Units	Amount	
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												99.99
												99.99
												99.99
												99.99
												99.99
81	Gas Res Serv	Est	2057806	10	10	23	3654.00	3554.00	1	100.00	CCF	
												99.99
												99.99
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Date Filed: February 18, 2000

Bills on or after
Effective Date: March 1, 2000

Michael J. Hanson
Issued By: President & CEO