#### SOUTH DAKOTA GAS RATE SCHEDULE

NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION d/b/a NORTH	WESTERN:	ENERGY	Section No. 5
HURON		5th Revised	Sheet No. 2
SOUTH DAKOTA	Canceling_	4th Revised	Sheet No. 2

# GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS (Continued)

# **ACCESS TO PREMISES**

The Company has the right of access to the Customer's premise at all reasonable times for the purpose of installing, reading, inspecting, or repairing any meters, devices and other equipment used in connection with furnishing of any or all service, or for the purpose of removing its property and for all other proper purposes. In addition, the Company may require the customer, Landlord or representative (at least the legal age of majority), be present when performing work inside a customer's facility.

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Access to the meter is required for the Company to read the meter. If access is not provided, the Company may estimate the billing for up to three consecutive months. The Company will notify the Customer upon each unsuccessful attempt to access the meter. If access has not been provided at the end of the three consecutive month period, the Company may charge a \$20 Special Access Fee in order to secure an actual read of the meter.

### PROTECTION OF COMPANY'S PROPERTY

The Customer will properly protect the Company's property on the Customer's premises from loss or damage and will permit no one who is not an agent of the Company to remove or tamper with the Company's property.

### **METERING**

The service used will be measured by a meter or meters to be furnished and installed by the Company at its own expense and upon the registration of said meters all bills will be calculated. If more than one meter is installed on different classes of service (each class being charged for at different rates) each meter will be considered by itself in calculating the amount of any bill, except as otherwise provided on a specific rate schedule. Meters include all measuring instruments.

# BYPASSING OR TAMPERING WITH METERING FACILITIES

Customers shall not interfere in any way with the metering facilities after they have been set in place. In cases where the meter seal is broken or the working parts of the meter have been tampered with or the meter damaged or there is evidence that a bypass has been used, the Utility may render a bill for the current billing period based upon the estimated use, considering past experience under similar conditions and may, in addition thereto, charge for the actual cost of repairing or replacing said meter and connections. Service may be discontinued or refused at the premises where such bypassing or tampering has occurred until all such charges are paid. Legal action may also be pursued in the instance of meter tampering. This section does not apply to metering facilities that are damaged by acts of God.

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