

Gary Hanson, Chair Chris Nelson, Vice Chair Kristie Fiegen, Commissioner

Sept. 29, 2011

<FName> <LName> <Address> <City> <State> <ZIP> SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

> 500 East Capitol Avenue Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070 www.puc.sd.gov

Capitol Office (605) 773-3201 1-866-757-6031 fax

Warehouse (605) 773-5280 (605) 773-3225 fax

Consumer Hotline 1-800-332-1782

Re: In the Matter of the Application of NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Authority to Increase its Natural Gas Rates. Docket NG11-003

Dear <FName> <LName>:

On Sept. 9, 2011, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission received a petition requesting the Commission to suspend the proposed rate increase requested by NorthWestern Energy and to hold public hearings to determine if such a rate should be allowed.

Enclosed, please find a notice of public hearing related to this matter. Please email puc@state.sd.us or call 1-800-332-1782 if you have any concerns regarding the public hearing.

Sincerely,

Patricia Van Gerpen Executive Driector