



November 14, 2016

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen, Executive Director  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
State Capitol Building  
500 E Capitol  
Pierre, SD, 57501

RE: Docket NG16-010 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of its Refund Plan regarding its Recovery of Manufactured Gas Plant Site Remediation Costs.

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

In docket NG16-010, NorthWestern Corporation (d.b.a. NorthWestern Energy) requested the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission to approve a plan to refund \$5.5 million of excess recoveries. Through the course of the docket, a disagreement between Staff and NorthWestern Energy ("NorthWestern") is noted regarding the treatment of the over-recovered balance from NG11-003. Staff and NorthWestern agree that resolution of this issue will be determined at a later date. NorthWestern requests Commission approval to allow NorthWestern to refund over recoveries on an interim basis beginning December 1, 2016 and ending November 30, 2017, based on the rates proposed in the plan in Docket NG16-010.

Should you have any questions regarding the above changes, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

**Jeff J. Decker**  
*Regulatory Specialist*  
jeff.decker@northwestern.com  
○ 605-353-8315