
From: Mary Garry

Sent: Tuesday, 06 December 2016 15:39:59 (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)

To: PUC

Subject: Northwestern

Docket Number NG16-014

Stanley and Mary Garry

[REDACTED]

Colton, SD 57018

Stanley, [REDACTED]

Mary, [REDACTED]

These comments are in regards to the letters we received from Northwestern Energy and Northern Natural Gas notifying us our natural gas service could be discontinued in 2017. From what we understand, this is a contractual issue between those two parties that they cannot resolve on their own. Because they can't come to agreement, we and many more in South Dakota will suffer.

As we both approach retirement, the last thing we need is the added expense of converting from natural gas to propane or electric. When the easement across our land was granted, it was done for the betterment of all of South Dakota and it provided for a tap in any gas pipeline constructed upon our premises for domestic purposes. I am certain landowners at the time would not have granted the easements if they were not promised natural gas service. What other incentive would they have had? The monetary compensation was certainly not enough. I have attached a copy of that easement.

The PUC should honor the easement granted by Northern Natural Gas providing for access to natural gas on our property. It is the PUC's job to make sure customers are treated fairly and allowing our natural gas service to be discontinued is anything but. It is not fair to let either company wash their hands of the situation and simply discontinue service.