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DEC 14 2016

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

December 10, 2016

PUC
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

To PUC Commissioners and staff,

My name is Scott A. Nilson and I am writing in regards to the letter sent out November 10, 2016. The comments are in reference to docket number NG 16-014. "In the Matter of Commission Staff's Petition for Declaratory Ruling Regarding Farm Tap Customers".

We have one farm tap on the interstate pipeline in which to my understanding an easement was given to go across five of our fields. To my understanding, neither Northern Natural Gas or Northwestern Energy have the right to terminate this agreement with customers that use the tap and pay their bills. If this is their right, then the land owners should have the right to cut off Northern's easements rights. We didn't go looking for them to use our land, they came to us. Furthermore, if by updated law, there needs to be a company to be responsible for the service of farm taps, it could be a small price for Northern to pay to have continued easements for their pipelines.

We only have a farm house on that farm tap and have recently put in a new furnace. Farm tap is approximately 200-250 feet long and to my knowledge, we haven't had any issues with it. It runs through a grove and lawn, not a field.

Option 1, in my opinion shouldn't even be on the table as an option for consideration. If that were the case, how much land would Northern have been given the right to access if there wasn't anything in it for the farmer. We know that answer. And if that option is used, then you are telling us we've just been used for nothing and have our taken rights away.

Sincerely,



Scott A. Nilson

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