
From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, 28 November 2016 20:44:41 (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)

To: PUC

Subject: Farm Tap Issue

To whom it may concern,

We received a letter from Northwestern Energy stating they are discontinuing services to farm tap customers on 12/31/2017. This is a shock to us as we had no idea that Northwestern Energy had a contract with Northern Natural gas that would terminate on this date. The letter we received from Northwestern Energy indicates they are willing to engage in further discussion concerning farm tap services in South Dakota and are wondering if this is a dollar and cents issue since Northern National Gas is unwilling to make a new contract with Northwestern Energy.

We have heard that Northern National Gas has been trying to figure out a way to eliminate farm tap services in South Dakota for a long time and it eliminated a few of these taps a few years ago by raising the price much higher than the price being charged in town so some could not afford it and had no choice but to change.

Our natural gas services includes our house, shop and grain bin dryers that can use over \$1000.00 in gas a day so it would be very difficult to change over to propane from natural gas. This would cause issues because I am not sure if our dryer could even be converted to propane not to mention the inconvenience and expense of making changes to the furnaces in our house and shop. We spent several thousands of dollars to run the line from our farm taps to the meter.

Has Northern National Gas contacted any other company that would be interested in taking over these services?

Northwestern Energy has been very accommodating with helping locate gas leaks and any other issues we have had with our equipment.

Please help get this issue resolved so we can continue to use this source of gas. If I can offer any other information that would help, please contact me.

Thank you,
Pat Lyons

[REDACTED]
Yankton, SD 57078

