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South Dakota

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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June 5, 2017

Patricia Van Gerpen, Executive Director
Public Utilities Commission
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

RE: NG17-009 In the Matter of the Application of South Dakota Intrastate Pipeline Company for Authority to Increase its Natural Gas Rates.

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen,

On June 1, 2017, the Commission received a letter of transmittal from South Dakota Intrastate Pipeline Company (SDIP) requesting authority to increase its natural gas rates. Staff has reviewed the filing and believes the filing is incomplete, does not meet the requirements of a rate case, and is subject to rejection pursuant to ARSD 20:10:13:105.

Specifically:

1. SDIP did not file a proposed rate with the letter of transmittal as required. SDCL 49-34A-17 does require that the Commission “issue a final decision within twelve months from the date the *proposed rate* or practice was filed.” It is Staff’s opinion that the letter of transmittal is not a “proposed rate” and that the twelve month review period will not begin until SDIP files a proposed rate.
2. SDIP’s filing did not include statements of facts, expert opinions, substantiating documents, and exhibits supporting the change requested, as required in SDCL 49-34A-12.
3. SDIP’s Letter of Transmittal did not comply with the requirements in ARSD 20:10:13:39 (4) and (6).
4. The filing does not include the required contents of applications for rate increases as provided in ARSD 20:10:13:40, specifically, the additional material required in 20:10:13:41 to 20:10:13:107, inclusive.
5. The filing does not meet the requirements of ARSD 20:10:13:26 (2), (3), (6), (8), (10) and (11).

Staff does note that SDIP indicated in its letter of transmittal that the company will file the applicable required documents in the docket no later than June 30, 2017. Additionally, SDIP has remained in contact with Staff and continues to provide regular updates on the status of the filing. Based on this, Staff does not

recommend that the Commission reject the filing at this time. However, Staff does reserve the right to request that the Commission reject the filing at a later date if necessary.

At this time, Staff requests Commission guidance on how to proceed.

Respectfully,

Amanda M. Reiss

Amanda M. Reiss
Staff Attorney