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Brian Rybarik, Attorney

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BY: E-filing

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen
Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 East Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

Re: MidAmerican Energy Company Request to Open Docket for Commission Approval of Farm Tap Proposal and a New or Revised Tariff

Dear Executive Secretary:

MidAmerican Energy Company (“MidAmerican”) requests that the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) open a docket to consider a proposal that would allow MidAmerican to provide services to a number of farm tap customers connected to an interstate pipeline owned and operated by Northern Natural Gas Company. These customers currently receive comparable services (billing, odorizing, emergency response, etc.) from NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy (“NorthWestern”) under a contractual arrangement between Northern Natural Gas and NorthWestern. Due to issues more fully described in Commission Docket No. NG16-014, NorthWestern will no longer provide these services as of December 31, 2017.

In an effort to ensure continuity of natural gas service for these customers, MidAmerican has been engaged in discussions with the Commission staff to provide safe and reliable services to the affected farm tap customers at just and reasonable rates. The discussions between MidAmerican and Commission staff were recently called to the Commission’s attention in a July 21, 2017 letter filed by staff in Docket No. NG16-014.

MidAmerican intends to file on July 27, 2017, a proposal and a new or revised tariff for Commission consideration which will allow MidAmerican to provide services to the affected farm tap customers. To ensure that there is sufficient time for implementation and customer awareness campaigns (these will be new customers to MidAmerican), MidAmerican will request approval of any related tariff modifications with less than 30 days’ notice.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Rybarik

Brian J. Rybarik
Managing Senior Attorney