



Chris Nelson, Chair
Kristie Fiegen, Vice Chair
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January 6, 2012

Patricia Van Gerpen

SD PUC Executive Director

500 E. Capitol Ave

Pierre, SD 57501

Re: PS11-001 Staff Reply

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen,

Enclosed for filing please find Staff's Reply to NorthWestern Energy and Montana Dakota Utilities' comments. The filing has five exhibits. Please note, Exhibit 3 is filed and marked confidential. This docket will be added to the January 17, 2012 agenda for discussion. Staff will be available then to answer questions.

Sincerely,

Kara Semmler