

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

In the Matter of the Petition for Declaratory
Ruling of the South Dakota Public Utilities
Commission regarding 49 C.F.R. § 192.3

PS11-001

NorthWestern Energy's Petition to Intervene

In accordance with ARSD 20:10:01:15.02, NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a
NorthWestern Energy petitions the Commission for leave to intervene in this proceeding.

In support of its petition, NorthWestern Energy states as follows:

1. At the request of Public Utilities Commission Pipeline Safety Program Manager and Staff, the Commission has opened the above-captioned docket to determine whether a new pipeline being constructed by NorthWestern Energy is properly classified as a distribution line.

2. As set forth in the Petition for Declaratory Ruling, NorthWestern Energy is constructing a six-mile pipeline from a town border station in Aberdeen to a gas turbine electricity generating facility and an adjacent beef processing plant. Consistent with past practice, NorthWestern Energy intends to classify this pipeline as a distribution line.

3. NorthWestern Energy has a direct and substantial interest in these proceedings because the Commission's decision will affect the administration of the Aberdeen pipeline. The interests of NorthWestern Energy are unique and cannot be fully and adequately represented by the existing parties.

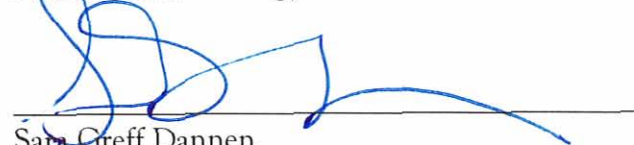
4. NorthWestern Energy desires to intervene so that it may receive documents, submit comments, present testimony, cross-examine witnesses, and produce evidence to the extent that such actions are required in this proceeding.

WHEREFORE, NorthWestern Energy respectfully requests that the Commission grant its petition to intervene and authorize NorthWestern Energy to participate in this proceeding with full rights as a formal party.

Dated at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, this 23rd day of November, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a
NorthWestern Energy



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Certificate of Service

Dori L. Quam hereby certifies that on this 23rd day of November, 2011, a true and correct copy of the foregoing NorthWestern Energy's Petition to Intervene was served upon the following by electronic mail:

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