



NorthWestern Corporation  
d/b/a NorthWestern Energy  
3010 West 69th Street  
Sioux Falls, SD 57108-5613  
Telephone: (605) 978-2900  
Facsimile: (605) 978-2910  
[www.northwesternenergy.com](http://www.northwesternenergy.com)

March 31, 2009

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

**RE: RM09-001- In the Matter of the Consideration of the Adoption of Rules  
Regarding Pipeline Safety**

Dear Patty:

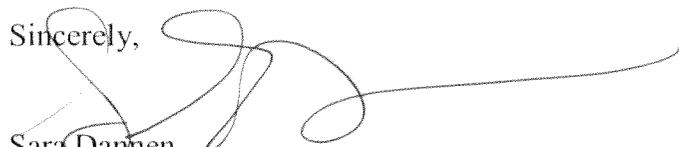
Please find attached a Petition to Intervene in the above referenced matter from NorthWestern Corporation, d/b/a NorthWestern Energy, for electronic filing with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission. Also attached is a Certificate of Service.

All future inquiries regarding this matter should be directed to:

Pamela A. Bonrud  
Director – SD/NE Government and Regulatory Affairs  
NorthWestern Energy  
3010 W. 69<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sioux Falls, SD 57108  
Email: [pam.bonrud@northwestern.com](mailto:pam.bonrud@northwestern.com)

Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
Sara Dapfen  
Corporate Counsel

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE CONSIDERATION        )        RM09-001  
OF THE ADOPTION OF RULES                    )  
REGARDING PIPELINE SAFETY                    )

**PETITION TO INTERVENE**

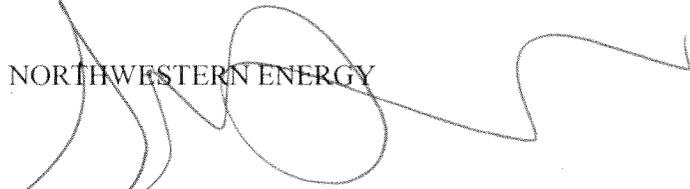
**COMES NOW** NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy and hereby petitions the Public Utilities Commission to grant NorthWestern Energy party status for intervention in this proceeding. In support of its Petition, NorthWestern Energy states as follows:

1. At the request of Public Utilities Commission Staff, the Commission has opened the above captioned docket and is considering how to proceed with regulatory matters in regards to its Pipeline Safety Program obligations contained in SDCL 49-34B.
2. As an investor-owned, rate-regulated, public utility serving natural gas customers in South Dakota, NorthWestern as an affected utility is subject to Commission oversight activities for its Pipeline Safety Program. NorthWestern requests intervention in order to participate fully in this matter.
3. The interests of NorthWestern are unique and cannot be fully and adequately represented by the existing parties, and NorthWestern and its stakeholders and ratepayers may be directly affected by the issues raised in this proceeding and its outcome.

**WHEREFORE**, NorthWestern respectfully requests that the Commission grant its Petition granting it party status in this proceeding.

DATED this 31st day of March, 2009.

NORTHWESTERN ENERGY



---

SARA DANNEN  
Corporate Counsel  
NorthWestern Corporation, d/b/a NorthWestern Energy  
3010 W. 69<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sioux Falls, SD 57108  
(605) 978-2900

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Sara Dannen of NorthWestern Corporation, d/b/a NorthWestern Energy, hereby certifies that on the 31st day of March, 2009, she transmitted electronically a true and correct copy of the foregoing in the above-captioned action to the following at their last known e-mail addresses, to-wit:

Patricia Van Gerpen  
[patty.vangerpen@state.sd.us](mailto:patty.vangerpen@state.sd.us)

Kara Semmler  
[kara.semmler@state.sd.us](mailto:kara.semmler@state.sd.us)

Nathan Solem  
[nathan.solem@state.sd.us](mailto:nathan.solem@state.sd.us)

Stacy Splitstoesser  
[stacy.splitstoesser@state.sd.us](mailto:stacy.splitstoesser@state.sd.us)

Pamela A. Bonrud  
[pam.bonrud@northwestern.com](mailto:pam.bonrud@northwestern.com)

Brett Koenecke  
[koenecke@magt.com](mailto:koenecke@magt.com)