

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY) ORDER APPROVING 1997
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY FOR) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
APPROVAL OF AN ECONOMIC) REPORT AND 1998
DEVELOPMENT PLAN) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
) PLAN
) EL98-008

On April 9, 1998, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received Northern States Power Company's (NSP) 1997 Economic Development Annual Report and proposed Economic Development Plan for 1998. The proposed plan was filed in accordance with the settlement agreements reached between NSP and Commission Staff, and approved by the Commission, in the company's most recent rate case filings, Dockets EL91-004 and EL92-016.

For 1998, NSP's proposed economic development investment budget is \$105,520. The actual expenditures for the 1997 Economic Development Plan were \$99,500. Fifty percent of the 1998 budget would be recovered through rates, with the remaining 50% funded by shareholders.

At its regularly scheduled May 28, 1998, meeting, the Commission reviewed NSP's 1997 Economic Development Annual Report and Economic Development Plan for 1998. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A, specifically, SDCL 49-34A-4 and 49-34A-6. After review of the report and plan, the Commission found that they are just and reasonable and voted to approve them. It is therefore

ORDERED, that NSP's 1997 Economic Development Annual Report and Economic Development Plan for 1998 are approved as filed.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 11th day of June, 1998.

<p>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.</p> <p>By: <u>Melanie Kalbo</u></p> <p>Date: <u>6/12/98</u></p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner