

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY) ORDER APPROVING TARIFF
NORTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE FOR) REVISIONS
APPROVAL OF A BILL CREDITING)
MECHANISM FOR YANKTON SIOUX TRIBE) EL00-034
MEMBERS)**

On December 6, 2000, NorthWestern Public Service Company (NWPS) filed with the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) the following tariff sheets proposing to implement a Bill Crediting Program which the Yankton Sioux Tribe and the Western Area Power Administration (Western) have agreed to participate in. According to the filing, NorthWestern billings to eligible members of the Tribe will reflect an adjustment for preference power committed to the Tribe by Western. The tariffs to be revised are as follows:

Section No. 1	5th Revised Sheet No. 2
Section No. 3	12th Revised Sheet No. 1
Section No. 3	7th Revised Sheet No. 2
Section No. 3	10th Revised Sheet No. 3
Section No. 3	8th Revised Sheet No. 4
Section No. 3	14th Revised Sheet No. 5
Section No. 3	11th Revised Sheet No. 6
Section No. 3	9th Revised Sheet No. 7
Section No. 3	6th Revised Sheet No. 8
Section No. 3	14th Revised Sheet No. 9
Section No. 3	9th Revised Sheet No. 10
Section No. 3	9th Revised Sheet No. 11
Section No. 3	10th Revised Sheet No. 12
Section No. 3	12th Revised Sheet No. 14
Section No. 3	11th Revised Sheet No. 15
Section No. 3	6th Revised Sheet No. 18
Section No. 3	10th Revised Sheet No. 23
Section No. 3	2nd Revised Sheet No. 25.1
Section No. 3	10th Revised Sheet No. 28
Section No. 3	3rd Revised Sheet No. 35

At its regularly scheduled meeting of January 4, 2001, the Commission considered approval of the application. Commission Staff recommended approval.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A. The Commission voted to approve the tariff revisions (Laska Schoenfelder, dissenting). The Commission further finds that the filing is just and reasonable and shall be approved. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that the NWPS revised tariff sheets, as described above, are approved and shall be effective for service rendered on and after January 5, 2001.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 17th day of January, 2001.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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.

By: Helaine Kalbo

Date: 1/17/01

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner,
dissenting