

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY)	ORDER APPROVING
NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION D/B/A)	TARIFF REVISIONS
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY FOR APPROVAL)	
OF TARIFF REVISIONS)	EL05-027

On November 23, 2005, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing by NorthWestern Corporation (NorthWestern) for approval of tariff revisions regarding Electric Tariff General Terms and Conditions, including the establishment of a tariffed line extension policy and associated cost recovery, establishment of policy for replacing overhead facilities with underground, changes to cogeneration and small power production interconnection, metering, continuity of service, and other changes. NorthWestern subsequently revised its initial filing, modifying or withdrawing certain of its proposed changes. The revised filing was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meetings on March 14 and April 11 where action was deferred. On April 10, 2006, NorthWestern filed revised tariff sheets which incorporated changes resulting from discussions with Commission Staff. The final proposed tariff sheets are as follows:

- Section No. 5, 6th Revised Sheet No. 1, Canceling 5th Revised Sheet No. 1;
- Section No. 5, 2nd Revised Sheet No. 1a, Canceling 1st Revised Sheet No. 1a;
- Section No. 5, 3rd Revised Sheet No. 2, Canceling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 2;
- Section No. 5, 3rd Revised Sheet No. 3, Canceling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 3;
- Section No. 5, 7th Revised Sheet No. 4, Canceling 6th Revised Sheet No. 4;
- Section No. 5, 1st Revised Sheet No. 5, Canceling Original Sheet No. 5;
- Section No. 5, 3rd Revised Sheet No. 6, Canceling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 6;
- Section No. 5, 1st Revised Sheet No. 6.1, Canceling Original Sheet No. 6.1;
- Section No. 5, 5th Revised Sheet No. 7, Canceling 4th Revised Sheet No. 7.

At its May 9, 2006, meeting, the Commission considered the request for approval of the revised tariff sheets. Commission Staff recommended approval.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-10, and 49-34A-11. Further, the Commission finds that NorthWestern's request for approval of tariff revisions is just and reasonable and shall be approved. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that the request seeking approval of tariff revisions is hereby granted. It is further

ORDERED, that the above referenced tariff sheets are effective for service rendered on and after May 1, 2006.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 17th day of May, 2006.

<p style="text-align: center;">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>Tina Douglas</u></p> <p>Date: <u>5/23/06</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Robert K. Sahr
ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman

Dustin M. Johnson
DUSTIN M. JOHNSON, Commissioner

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