BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY NORTHWESTERN ENERGY FOR APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT WITH DEVIATIONS WITH LAKE PRESTON COOPERATIVE	))))))	**ORDER APPROVING CONTRACT WITH DEVIATIONS AND APPROVING TARIFF REVISIONS NG07-015**

On July 25, 2007, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing by NorthWestern Energy (NWE) requesting approval of a contract with deviations for recovery of the cost of facilities to provide expanded service to Lake Preston Cooperative's new grain drying equipment. NWE requests approval with less than 30 days notice in order to accommodate the customer's need for service in a timely manner. NWE filed the following tariff sheet for Commission approval:

Section No. 4, 19th Revised Sheet No. 1, Canceling 18th Revised Sheet No. 1

On August 7, 2007, at a regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the request for approval of the Contract with Deviations. 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-8.3, 49-34A-10, and 49-34A-11. Further, the Commission finds that NWE's request for approval of a Contract with Deviations on less than 30 days notice is just and reasonable and shall be approved for service rendered on and after August 7, 2007, with the conditions that NWE provide a report to the Commission of all actual costs of constructing the facilities extension upon completion and this approval does not pre-determine a Commission decision at the time of future rate case proceedings regarding rate treatment concerning possible cost recovery shortfalls resulting from rates approved in this docket. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that the request seeking approval of a Contract with Deviations on less than 30 days notice is in the public interest and is hereby granted, with the conditions that NWE provide a report to the Commission of all actual costs of constructing the facilities extension upon completion and this approval does not pre-determine a Commission decision at the time of future rate case proceedings regarding rate treatment concerning possible cost recovery shortfalls resulting from rates approved in this docket; and it is further

ORDERED, that the above-mentioned tariff is approved and is effective August 7, 2007.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 14th day of August, 2007.

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, electronically.

By: Delaine Kolbo

Date: _____

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

DUSTIN M. JOHNSON, Chairman

GARY HANSON, Commissioner

STEVE KOLBECK, Commissioner