

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY)
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY FOR APPROVAL)
OF TARIFF REVISIONS)
)**

**ORDER APPROVING
TARIFF REVISIONS**

NG11-004

On August 26, 2011, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing by NorthWestern Energy (NWE) to update its fuel retention percentage in its natural gas transportation service tariff. NWE's tariff provides that the fuel retention percentage be adjusted annually with the updated percentage to be effective October 1 of each year. NWE subsequently revised the filing to clarify the applicability of the large customer retention percentage. The revised tariff sheet is as follows:

Section No. 5, 16th Revised Sheet No. 6.2 canceling 15th Revised Sheet No. 6.2

At its regularly scheduled meeting of September 27, 2011, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff recommended approval of the tariff revisions to update NWE's fuel retention percentage in its natural gas transportation service tariff and to clarify the applicability of the large customer retention percentage.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A. The Commission finds the tariff revisions are just and reasonable and approved the tariff revisions. It is therefore

ORDERED, that NWE's revised tariff as described above is approved and shall be effective for services rendered on and after October 1, 2011.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 30 day of September, 2011.

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: <u>Joy Kemp</u>
Date: <u>09/30/11</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner