

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY)
NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION DBA)
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY FOR)
APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO A)
CONTRACT WITH DEVIATIONS WITH)
ASSOCIATED MILK PRODUCERS, INC.)**

**ORDER APPROVING
CONTRACTS WITH
DEVIATIONS AND APPROVING
TARIFF REVISION**

NG12-004

On June 27, 2012, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing by NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy (NWE) requesting approval of the contracts with deviations with Associated Milk Producers, Inc. (AMPI) and an associated tariff revision. Currently, NWE provides sales service to AMPI with a deviation from the tariffed rate to recover specific pipeline costs. AMPI has contracted for gas supply with a third party and now requests to be served transportation service in lieu of sales service. The proposed amendment will facilitate this request. The revised tariff sheet is as follows:

Section No. 4, 7th Revised Sheet No.2

Canceling 6th Revised Sheet No. 2

On June 28, 2012, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 13, 2012, to interested individuals and entities. No parties sought intervention.

On July 31, 2012, at a regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the request for approval of the contracts with deviations and tariff revision.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A and ARSD 20:10:13:26 and 20:10:13:36. Further, the Commission finds that NWE's request for approval of the contracts with deviations and associated tariff sheet is just and reasonable and shall be approved for service rendered on or after August 1, 2012. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that the request seeking approval of the revised contracts with deviations is in the public interest and is hereby granted; and it is further

ORDERED, that the above-mentioned tariff is approved and is effective for services rendered on and after August 1, 2012.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 6th day of August, 2012.

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 Bailey</u>
Date: <u>August 6, 2012</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner