

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY FOR)
AUTHORITY TO INCREASE ITS NATURAL)
GAS RATES)**

**ORDER ASSESSING FILING FEE
AND SUSPENDING OPERATION OF
PROPOSED RATES**

NG14-005

On August 4, 2014, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application from MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) for approval to increase rates for natural gas service to customers in its South Dakota service territory by approximately \$2.9 million based on MidAmerican's test year ending December 31, 2013. The Company states a typical residential natural gas customer using 61 therms per month would see an increase of \$1.00 per month. The proposed changes potentially affect approximately 88,000 customers. On August 7, 2014, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of October 24, 2014, to interested individuals and entities.

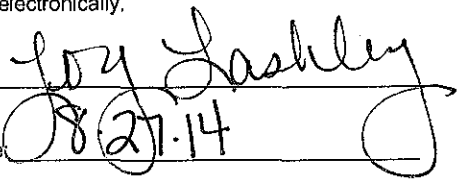
SDCL 49-1A-8 authorizes the Commission to require a deposit of up to two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) in the Commission's Regulatory Assessment Fee fund to defray Commission expenses incident to analyzing and ruling upon an application to increase rates as part of a general rate case. The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-1A, 49-34A and ARSD 20:10:13.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on August 19, 2014, the Commission considered this matter. In accordance with Staff's request, the Commission voted unanimously to assess MidAmerican a filing fee pursuant to SDCL 49-1A-8 up to the statutory limit of \$250,000 for expenses related to the general rate case and to suspend the operation of the schedule of rates proposed by MidAmerican pursuant to SDCL 49-34A-14 for 180 days after the Application filing date of August 4, 2014. It is therefore

ORDERED, that MidAmerican shall be assessed a filing fee in an amount up to the statutory limit of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) for expenses related to the general rate case, with payments made to the Commission's Regulatory Assessment Fee fund as periodically billed by the Commission. It is further

ORDERED, that the proposed schedule of rates shall be suspended for 180 days after August 4, 2014, pursuant to SDCL 49-34A-14.


Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 27th day of August, 2014.

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:	
Date:	8/27/14
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

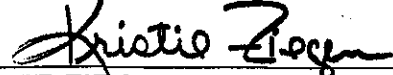
BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



GARY HANSON, Chairman



CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner



KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner