

**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 TARIFF REVISIONS )  
REGARDING EXCESS FLOW VALVES )  
FOR EXISTING SERVICE LINES )**

**ORDER APPROVING  
TARIFF REVISIONS**

**NG17-006**

On March 31, 2017, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing for approval of tariff revisions to implement cost recovery for installation of an excess flow valve (EFV) on an existing gas line at the customer's request. This EFV installation charge is proposed in order to implement new federal regulations issued by the United States Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA). These new regulations mandate that natural gas utilities offer the installation of EFVs to existing residences and small commercial structures served from qualifying distribution systems. The new requirements were effective on April 14, 2017. NorthWestern requests an effective date of May 1, 2017. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A, specifically 49-34A-4, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-10, and 49-34A-12. The tariff sheets are as follows:

South Dakota Gas Rate Schedule

Section No. 5

1st Revised Sheet No. 1c

Canceling Original Sheet No. 1c

On April 6, 2017, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of April 21, 2017, to interested entities and persons on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. On April 19, 2017, NorthWestern responded to staff's data request.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on April 27, 2017, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff recommended approval of the tariff revisions with a May 1, 2017, effective date. Finding the revisions to be just and reasonable, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the revisions, effective May 1, 2017. It is therefore

**ORDERED**, that NorthWestern's request to revise its tariff is hereby granted and the revisions are approved, effective for services rendered on and after May 1, 2017.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 8th day of May, 2017.

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| <b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>   |
| 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 or by mail. |
| By: <u>Adam Detmuck</u>   |
| Date: <u>5/8/17</u>   |
| (OFFICIAL SEAL)   |

**BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:**

Kristie Fiegen  
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Chairperson

Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Chris Nelson  
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner