

**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 A CONTRACT WITH) DEVIATIONS WITH PRAIRIE AQUATECH) MANUFACTURING, LLC)	ORDER APPROVING CONTRACT WITH DEVIATIONS AND TARIFF REVISIONS NG18-012
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On August 17, 2018, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern) requesting approval of a contract with deviations with Prairie AquaTech Manufacturing, LLC (AquaTech). AquaTech will be a new customer on NorthWestern's natural gas system. The purpose of this filing is to require a security for construction costs in order to protect legacy customers, utilization of minimum annual obligation and an annual look back period, and termination conditions as set forth in the agreement between NorthWestern and AquaTech. The customer will be served under Rate 87 in the tariff. NorthWestern proposes an October 1, 2018, effective date for the revised tariff sheet. The revised tariff sheet is as follows:

South Dakota Gas Rate Schedule

Section No. 4

13th Revised Sheet No. 2

Canceling 12th Revised Sheet No. 2

On August 23, 2018, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of September 7, 2018, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. On September 4, 2018, NorthWestern responded to staff's data request.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-38A-8.3, 49-34A-10, and 49-34A-11.

At its regular meeting on September 18, 2018, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff recommended approval. Finding that NorthWestern's request for approval of a contract with deviations with AquaTech and the associated tariff sheet is just and reasonable, the Commission voted unanimously to grant NorthWestern's request for approval of a contract with deviations and to approve the associated tariff sheet with an effective date of October 1, 2018. It is therefore

ORDERED, that NorthWestern's request seeking approval of a contract with deviations with AquaTech is hereby granted with an effective date of October 1, 2018. It is further

ORDERED, that the revisions of the above-referenced tariff sheet to reflect the contract with deviations with AquaTech is approved, effective October 1, 2018.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 26th day of September 2018.

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 or by mail.	
By: <u>Karen E. Cromer</u>	
Date: <u>09/26/18</u>	
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kristie Eegen
KRISTIE EEGEN, Chairperson

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner