

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY)	ORDER APPROVING DEMAND
NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION DBA)	SIDE MANAGEMENT PLAN
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY FOR APPROVAL)	AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY
OF REVISED ENERGY EFFICIENCY)	ADJUSTMENT RATE
ADJUSTMENT RATES AND DEMAND SIDE)	EXTENSION
MANAGEMENT PLAN EXTENSION)	
)	
)	GE16-002

On May 20, 2016, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from NorthWestern Corporation, dba NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern). NorthWestern filed a request to extend its current South Dakota Demand Side Management (SDDSM) Plan for six months, through December 31, 2016, and a request to revise NorthWestern's Energy Efficiency Adjustment (EEA) rates.

On May 26, 2016, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of June 10, 2016, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. On June 17, 2016, NorthWestern filed its responses to Commission Staff's (Staff) Data Request. In its responses, NorthWestern proposed to extend the currently effective EEA rates through December 31, 2016, rather than adjusting the rates at this time. On June 17, 2016, Staff filed a memorandum regarding recommendations for the docket.

The Commission finds it has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-8.2, 49-34A-8.4, 49-34A-10, and 49-34A-11.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on June 21, 2016, the Commission considered this matter. Staff recommended that the Commission approve the six-month extension for NorthWestern's SDDSM Plan and currently effective EEA rates. After discussing the matter, the Commission voted to approve the SDDSM Plan and EEA rate extension, with Chairman Nelson dissenting. It is therefore

ORDERED, that NorthWestern's request to extend its SDDSM Plan through December 31, 2016, is hereby approved. It is further

ORDERED, that NorthWestern's request to extend the currently effective EEA rates of \$0.0005/kWh for electric service and a credit \$0.0007/therm for gas service through December 31, 2016, is hereby approved.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 23rd day of June, 2016.

<p>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>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.</p> <p>By: <u>Karen E. Cremer</u></p> <p>Date: <u>June 23, 2016</u></p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman (dissenting)

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner