

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY)	ORDER APPROVING
NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION DBA)	CONTRACT WITH
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY FOR APPROVAL)	DEVIATIONS
OF ITS CONTRACT WITH DEVIATIONS WITH)	
SOUTH DAKOTA SOYBEAN PROCESSORS,)	NG13-006
LLC)	

On September 18, 2013, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern). NorthWestern requested approval of a natural gas contract with deviations with South Dakota Soybean Processors, LLC and associated tariff revisions and to correct the expiration date listed for the contract with deviations with Great Plains Ethanol, LLC - Chancellor. NorthWestern seeks a November 1, 2013, effective date for the contract with deviations with South Dakota Soybean Processors, LLC and requests that the contract be in effect for 10 years ending on October 31, 2023. NorthWestern also seeks to correct the expiration date listed for Great Plains Ethanol, LLC – Chancellor from October 31, 2013 to October 31, 2018, in Section No. 4, Sheet No. 1 of its natural gas tariff. No rates are being changed in the correction relating to Great Plains Ethanol, LLC – Chancellor.

On September 19, 2013, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of October 4, 2013, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. On October 10, 2013, NorthWestern filed responses to Staff's data requests. The revised tariff sheet is as follow:

South Dakota Gas Rate Schedule

Section No. 4

21st Revised Sheet No. 1

Canceling 20th Revised Sheet No. 1

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 October 22, 2013, the Commission considered this matter. Commission Staff recommended approval. Finding that NorthWestern's request for approval of a contract with deviations with South Dakota Soybean Processors, LLC and the associated tariff sheet are just and reasonable and that the revision to the expiration date of the contract with deviations with Great Plains Ethanol, LLC – Chancellor will accurately reflect the contract expiration date, the Commission voted unanimously to grant NorthWestern's request and approve the associated tariff sheet with an effective date of November 1, 2013. It is therefore

ORDERED, that NorthWestern's request seeking approval of a contract with deviations with South Dakota Soybean Processors, LLC is hereby granted with an effective date of November 1, 2013. It is further

ORDERED, that the expiration date for the contract with deviations with Great Plains Ethanol, LLC – Chancellor is revised to October 31, 2018. It is further

ORDERED, that the above-referenced tariff sheet is approved with an effective date of November 1, 2013.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 29th day of October, 2013.

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 Lashley</u>
Date:	<u>10.29.13</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner