

**RECEIVED**

**DEC 16 2016**

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

Dear PUC Representative

12/14/16

It has come to my attention that the ability to access natural gas via my farm tap is in jeopardy. As part of the agreement my Grandfather signed with the natural gas company, we were assured that we would have access to natural gas on this farm in exchange for an easement to put the pipeline in. In many ways this farm was built around the ability to use natural gas. Examples would be grain bin dryers, heaters for water tanks as well as heating our home.

The cost of losing the natural gas to our family farm would be enormous. Tanks, digging in new lines, piping, different furnace, and different water tanks would be a great economic burden for us.

With all of the controversy about pipelines in this state at this time I do not think it would be wise to let a pipeline company not live up to their agreement made years ago. It is exactly what folks are concerned about. We have had a great relationship with the pipeline folks for many years and I simply ask that they continue to hold up their end of the bargain.

I am asking the PUC use any means at their disposal to make the gas company continue to allow us to continue to purchase natural gas at a fair market value from them and live up to their agreements.

Thank you

Steve Renli

[REDACTED] Canton SD 57013

[REDACTED]

000455

Steve Penl.



Canton SD 57013

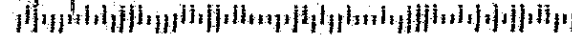
SIOUX FALLS SD 570

14 DEC 2016 PM 2 L



Public Utilities Commission  
Capitol Building 1st Floor  
500 E Capitol Ave  
Pierre, SD 57501-5070  
RE NG16-014

57501-507080



000456

---

**From:** Chuck Chernotik  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 December 2016 17:47:29 (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** PUC  
**Subject:** NG16-014

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Chuck Chernotik [REDACTED] >  
**Date:** December 16, 2016 at 4:21:31 PM CST  
**To:** [puc@stare.sd.us](mailto:puc@stare.sd.us)  
**Subject:** NG16-014

I am writing to express my opposition to this docket. We can not let northwestern energy pick and choose who they serve. My house and farm will be negatively impacted if and when they shut off the farm tap. Costs that will be needlessly incurred will be all new lines buried, new regulators, changing over several furnaces to run on propane, etc. the part that I don't understand is they will still have gas running through the same pipeline but they will be allowed to shut the valves on the farm taps. I am against this completely. Thanks for your time. Please don't let them pick and choose to selectively shut off customers. Chuck Chernotik

[REDACTED]  
Mitchell SD 57301

[REDACTED]

000457

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Online Complaint Form

**Sent:** Friday, 16 December 2016 15:05:54 (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)

**To:** PUC Consumer Info

**Subject:** Online Complaint Form

## Consumer Informal Complaint Form

Customer Name : Dan Amundson

Street Address : [REDACTED]

City : Vermillion

State Code : SD

ZipCode: 57069

County Name : Clay

Home Phone : [REDACTED]

Customer Work Phone :

Email : [REDACTED]

Utility Account Number : [REDACTED]

Complaint Company Name : NorthWestern Energy

Complaint Company Address : PO Box 1318

Complaint Company City : Huron

Complaint Company State : SD

Complaint Company Zip : 57350-1318

Date : 12/16/16

Complaint Information - Please explain your complaint in detail : I am writing regarding DOCKET NG16-014 which discusses removing my farm tap. I do not believe that it is right for a natural gas company to discontinue providing service to homes and leaving them high and dry to figure out who is to provide service. I do not have the finances to switch over to propane as I have recently purchased furnaces and appliances for my property which run on natural gas. This was done long before I ever received any notice that I was going to lose my natural gas service. If I am forced to switch I don't believe that it should be at my expense, it should be NorthWestern's expense!!!! They are leaving many homes in financial distress over this matter. Also, how can they justify keeping 5 farm taps and discontinuing 195? This isn't right. Why do they get to keep their service and we lose ours? Who is going to pay for this expense. It shouldn't be the property owner. Many of us cannot afford to switch to propane! I don't believe that NorthWestern should have the right to discontinue service to homes without providing options that are not at the expense of the property owner. Please help me keep my farm tap!

000458

Did you speak to a supervisor from your utility company? : No

If 'Yes', what was the result? :

Are you subject to disconnection? : Yes

What do you think the company should do to resolve your complaint? : I think they should keep my farm tap service, provide us with another company who will take over the service, or be responsible for the sole expense of switching over to propane meaning purchasing new furnaces and appliances, etc. which the property is affected by the use of natural gas.