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Celebrating 125 Years

August 15, 2006

Writer's E-mail: koenecke@magt.com

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AUG 15 2006

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
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HAND DELIVERED

SD Public Utilities Commission
500 E. Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501

RE: IN THE MATTER OF THE CONSIDERATION OF THE NEW PURPA STANDARDS
DOCKET EL06-018
OUR FILE 0044

Dear Commissioners:

Enclosed please find the original and 10 copies of a Petition to Intervene on behalf of NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy.

Very truly yours,

MAY, ADAM, GERDES & THOMPSON LLP



BRETT KOENECKE

BK/jml

Enclosures

RECEIVED

AUG 15 2006

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE CONSIDERATION) EL06-018
OF THE NEW PURPA STANDARDS)

PETITION TO INTERVENE

COMES NOW NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy and hereby petitions the Public Utilities Commission to grant NorthWestern party status for intervention in this proceeding. In support of its Petition, NorthWestern Energy states as follows:

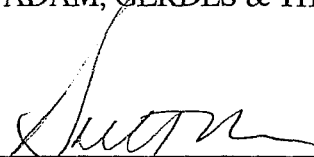
1. EPAC 2005 was signed into law August 8, 2005. The amendments to PURPA in the EPAC 2005 legislation added new federal standards regarding that metering fuel diversity, fossil fuel generation efficiency, smart metering, and interconnection for distributed resources.
2. The Commission has opened the above captioned docket and is considering how or whether to proceed with regulatory matters in this new PURPA standards environment.
3. As an investor-owned, rate-regulated, public utility serving electric customers in South Dakota, NorthWestern as an affected utility is subject to standards under the new PURPA amendments. NorthWestern requests intervention in order to participate fully as a party in this matter.
4. The interests of NorthWestern are unique and cannot be fully and adequately represented by the existing parties, and NorthWestern and its stakeholders and ratepayers may be directly affected by the issues raised in this proceeding and its outcome.

WHEREFORE, NorthWestern respectfully requests that the Commission grant its Petition granting it party status in this proceeding.

DATED this 15th day of August, 2006.

MAY, ADAM, GERDES & THOMPSON LLP

BY: _____



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d/b/a NorthWestern Energy
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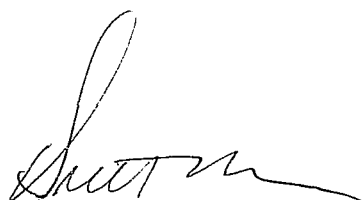
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Brett Koenecke of May, Adam, Gerdes & Thompson LLP hereby certifies that on the 15th day of August, 2006, he mailed by United States mail, first class postage thereon prepaid, a true and correct copy of the foregoing in the above captioned action to the following at their last known addresses, to-wit:

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