

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

|  |   |                            |
|--|---|----------------------------|
| <b>IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION FOR</b>   | ) |                            |
| <b>ELECTRICAL SERVICE BY DAKOTA PLAINS</b> | ) |                            |
| <b>AG CENTER, LLC &amp; TO HAVE</b>        | ) | <b>DOCKET NO. EL16-013</b> |
| <b>NORTHWESTERN ENERGY ASSIGNED AS ITS</b> | ) |                            |
| <b>ELECTRIC SERVICE PROVIDER IN THE</b>    | ) |                            |
| <b>SERVICE TERRITORY OF BON HOMME -</b>    | ) |                            |
| <b>YANKTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.</b>  | ) |                            |

**NORTHWESTERN ENERGY'S PETITION TO INTERVENE**

NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy ("*NorthWestern*") hereby petitions the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission ("*Commission*") for intervention in the above-captioned proceeding pursuant to SDCL § 1-26-17.1, ARSD § 20:10:01:15.02 and 20:10:01:15.03. In support hereof, NorthWestern states as follows:

1. Dakota Plains Ag Center, LLC ("*Dakota Plains*") plans to construct a new grain handling terminal (the "*Terminal*") in Yankton County, South Dakota. Dakota Plains is a new customer, seeking electrical service at a new location, and the site is within the service territory of NorthWestern and Bon Homme-Yankton Electric Association, Inc.

2. On April 1, 2016, Dakota Plains filed a Petition for Electrical Service (the "*Petition*") pursuant to SDCL § 49-34A-56, in which it requested the Commission assign NorthWestern as the supplier of electrical service to the Terminal.

3. On April 7, 2016, the Commission noticed filing of the Petition on its Weekly Filings and established an intervention deadline of April 22, 2016.

4. On April 8, 2016, NorthWestern and Dakota Plains executed an Electric Distribution Service Agreement ("*Agreement*").

5. NorthWestern's pecuniary interests will be directly and immediately affected by the Commission's decision on the Petition. NorthWestern desires to intervene in this matter to

provide information regarding its ability to provide electric service to the Facility.

6. In addition to customer preference, NorthWestern believes it is best situated to provide electrical service to Dakota Plains pursuant to the criteria established by SDCL § 49-34A-56.

7. Based on the foregoing, NorthWestern is an interested party in this matter entitled to intervening party status.

WHEREFORE, NorthWestern requests that the Commission grant this Petition to Intervene and allow NorthWestern to be granted party status in this proceeding.

Dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016.

**NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION,  
d/b/a NORTHWESTERN ENERGY**



By: Jonathan M. Oostra  
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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I the undersigned hereby certify that on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016, true and correct copies of the foregoing, *NorthWestern's Petition to Intervene*, was served upon the following by electronic mail:

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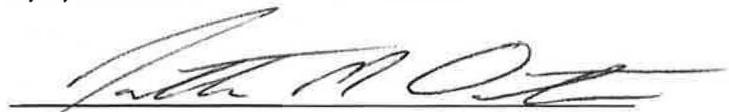
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**NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION,  
d/b/a NORTHWESTERN ENERGY**

  
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