BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

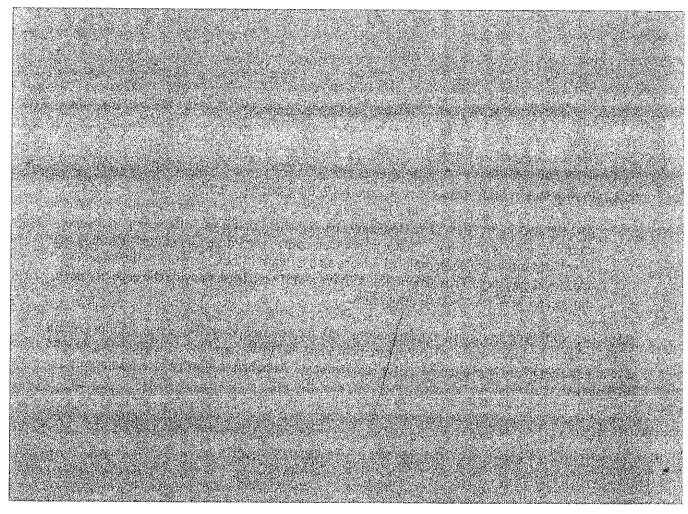
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT BY JUHL ENERGY, INC. AGAINST NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION DBA NORTHWESTERN ENERGY FOR ESTABLISHING A PURCHASE POWER AGREEMENT

NORTHWESTERN'S RESPONSE TO COMMISSION STAFF'S FOURTH SET OF DATA REQUESTS

EL16-021

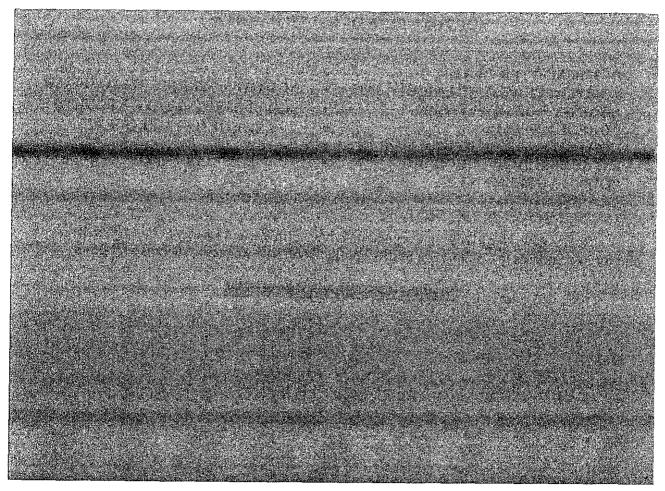
Comes now, NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy ("NorthWestern") and for its responses to Commission Staff's Fourth Set of Data Requests, submits as follows:

NORTHWESTERN'S RESPONSE



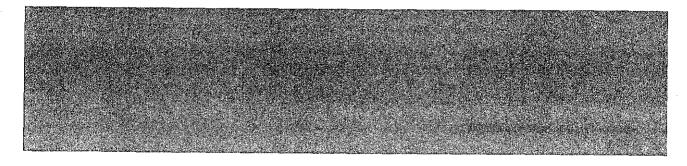
NWE Response to Staff's Fourth DR Page 1

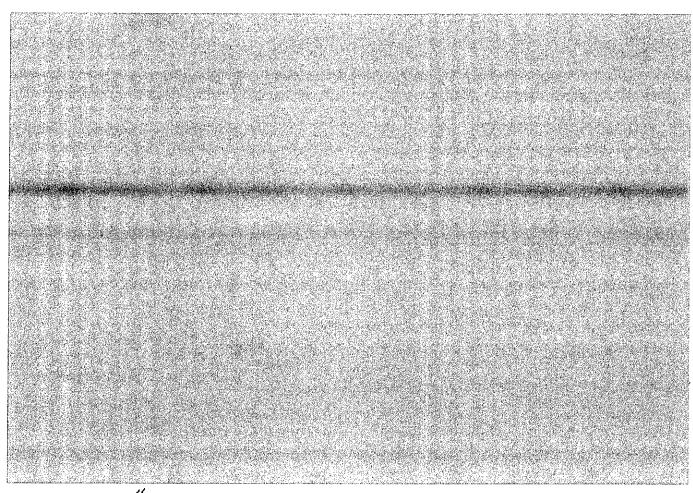




4-24) In response to Staff's discovery request 1-17, the Company indicated that it was in the process of evaluating need and negotiating a PPA with a respondent regarding a PPA for 35 MW starting in 2019. The Company also indicated that it was attempting to resolve confidentiality restrictions. Please provide an update regarding this matter including the length of term being contemplated. Please also explain if the Company will be needing additional capacity in addition to the 35 MW and if so, please provide the capacity need, timing and MW on a year by year basis.

Response: NorthWestern is still in negotiations with the counter party. Based on the most recent analysis that is included in the 2016 Procurement Plan, NorthWestern's need will be less than 35 MW and the company is evaluating a 3 year agreement. Attached is NorthWestern Energy's 2016 plan.





Dated this <u>1311</u> day of December, 2016.

NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION, d/b/a NORTHWESTERN ENERGY

Jonathan M. Oostra

Al Brogan

3010 West 69th Street

Sioux Falls, SD 57108

Phone: (605) 978-2940

jon.oostra@northwestern.com

Attorneys for NorthWestern Corporation

d/b/a NorthWestern Energy