



**EXHIBIT A
REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT**

COMES NOW, NorthWestern Corporation, doing business as NorthWestern Energy ("NorthWestern"), and pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:41, requests confidential treatment as follows:

- 1) The document for which confidential treatment is requested is Exhibit B, the work papers used in determining the costs of NorthWestern's annual rates for purchased power.
- 2) NorthWestern requests that such confidential treatment be afforded the work papers indefinitely.
- 3) The name, address and phone number of the persons to be contacted regarding the confidentiality request are:

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Regulatory Analyst
NorthWestern Energy
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- 4) The grounds for confidentiality are that the work papers provide proprietary information concerning NorthWestern.
- 5) As a factual basis in support of this request, please see the response to item 4) above.