Docket Number:	EL25-013
Subject Matter:	First Data Request
Request to:	NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern or Company)
Request from:	South Dakota Public Utilities Commission Staff
Date of Request:	May 1, 2025
Responses Due:	May 15, 2025

## Small Modular Nuclear Reactor Generation

1-13. If NorthWestern is able to partner with another utility in the future, how will that utility share in the costs of the nuclear studies? Confirm any costs recovered through the PIRP that are ultimately shared by a utility partner will be refunded back to customers, with interest.

## **NWE RESPONSE:**

Any study costs related to the analysis of SMR for South Dakota will be defined in an agreement between NorthWestern and potential utility partners. NorthWestern confirms that any study costs incurred during our analysis of SMR will be cost shared with other potential SMR partners and those costs will be reimbursed to customers, with interest.