

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY)	ORDER APPROVING PHASE-IN
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY PUBLIC SERVICE)	RATE PLAN RIDER AND
CORPORATION DBA NORTHWESTERN)	TARIFF REVISION
ENERGY'S REQUEST TO IMPLEMENT A)	
PHASE-IN RATE PLAN RIDER)	
)	EL25-013

On April 1, 2025, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a petition from NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern) for Approval of Its Phase-In Rate Plan Rider (PIRP Rider). NorthWestern requests recovery of capital investment costs associated with an electric generation plant rebuild located in Aberdeen, South Dakota, and costs related to its evaluation of Small Modular Nuclear Reactors technology to meet future generation and capacity needs. The proposed rates and monthly impact will vary by customer class. NorthWestern states a typical residential electric customer using an average of 750 kWh per month will be billed \$2.27 per month under the proposed PIRP Rider. NorthWestern requests Commission approval of its proposed PIRP Rider with an effective date of July 1, 2025.

On April 3, 2025, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of April 22, 2025, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. On June 25, 2025, NorthWestern filed its responses to staff's first and second set of data requests. On June 25, 2025, Commission staff filed its memorandum in this matter. On June 26, 2025, NorthWestern filed a Revised Attachment A.

The revised tariff sheet effective for service rendered on and after July 1, 2025, is as follows:

South Dakota Electric Rate Schedule

Section No. 3

10th Revised Sheet No. 36

Canceling 9th Revised Sheet No. 36

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A, specifically 49-34A-4, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-10, 49-34A-12, 49-34A-73 through 49-34A-78, inclusive, and ARSD Chapter 20:10:13.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on July 1, 2025, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff recommended approval, as outlined in its memorandum, of the PIRP revenue requirement and proposed rates per customer class. Commission staff also recommended the Commission clarify the amount of small modular nuclear study costs authorized to be included in the regulatory asset. Finding the request to be just and reasonable, the Commission voted unanimously to approve NorthWestern's request and to authorize additional costs associated with the evaluation of small modular nuclear technology be included in the regulatory asset. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the PIRP Rider Rates and the revised tariff sheet set forth above are hereby approved effective July 1, 2025. It is further

ORDERED, that NorthWestern's additional costs associated with its evaluation of small modular nuclear technology may be included in the regulatory asset approved in Docket No. EL23-002.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 1st day of July 2025.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically or by mail.

By: *Kristie Fiegen*

Date: *1 July 2025*

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary W. Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairperson

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner