BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF NORTHWESTERN ENERGY PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION, DBA NORTHWESTERN ENERGY, FOR AN ENERGY CONVERSION FACILITY PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT THE HUB CITY ENERGY PARK NATURAL GAS GENERATION FACILITY, INCLUDING A NATURAL GAS TRANSMISSION PIPELINE, NEAR ABERDEEN, SOUTH DAKOTA	))))))))	**ORDER ASSESSING FILING FEE** **EL26-031**

On October 2, 2026, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an Application from NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation, dba NorthWestern Energy ("NorthWestern" or "Applicant") for an energy conversion facility permit to construct the Hub City Energy Park (Project) natural gas generation facility, including a natural gas transmission pipeline, near Aberdeen, South Dakota. The Project, formerly known as the Aberdeen III Generating Station, is a nominal 131 MW (gross) natural gas combustion turbine (CT) facility. The Project consists of three CTs in simple cycle configuration, including a back-end multipollutant catalyst system, and associated balance-of-plant systems and equipment. The Project also includes a new substation and overhead electric tie-in line to facilitate electrical grid interconnection to the existing Siebrecht substation on the Aberdeen Generating Station site, and a natural gas lateral transmission line to connect to the nearby Northern Border Pipeline Company mainline. Applicant expects construction activities to begin in late 2027 or early 2028, with the Project coming online in the first half of 2030.

On October 8, 2026, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of December 1, 2026, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments have been filed to date. On October 21, 2026, the Commission issued an Order Authorizing Executive Director to Enter into Consulting Contracts; Order Reappointing Local Review Committee. On November 5, 2026, NorthWestern filed a Letter regarding Updated Estimate Construction Cost and Attachment that states that the estimated cost of construction for the Project is $470 million. SDCL 49-41B-12 provides for a filing fee to be assessed to cover the Commission's actual cost of investigating, reviewing, processing, and serving notice of the Application. Using the estimated construction cost of $470 million, the maximum fee chargeable, as calculated pursuant to statute, is $435,000.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-12.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on November 19, 2026, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission voted unanimously to assess a filing fee as requested by Commission staff up to the statutory limit of $435,000 to account for actual expenses incurred in review of this filing. However, the Commission reserves the right to amend the maximum fee in the event the estimated construction cost materially increases. It is therefore

ORDERED, that NorthWestern shall be assessed a filing fee pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-12 for actual expenses incurred by the Commission commencing from the filing date not to exceed

$435,000.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 24th day of November 2026.

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: 11-24-26

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chi Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner