Attachment 2

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	))))))))	**NOTICE OF APPLICATION; ORDER FOR AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC INPUT MEETING; NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO APPLY FOR PARTY STATUS** **EL26-031**

On October 2, 2026, the 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 generation-tie 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.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-41B and ARSD Chapter 20:10:22.

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15 and 49-41B-16, **the Commission will hold the following public input meeting:**

Monday, November 23, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. CT
Dakota Event Center
720 Lamont St. S
Aberdeen, SD 57401

The purpose of the public input meeting will be to hear public comments regarding the Application and the Project. At the meeting, Applicant will present a brief description of the Project, after which interested persons may appear and present their views, comments, and questions regarding the Application. A copy of the Application is on file with the Brown County Auditor and at the Commission's office in Pierre. The Application and all other documents in the docket, including detailed maps of the Project, may be accessed on the Commission's website at puc.sd.gov under Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Electric Dockets, 2026 Electric Dockets, EL26-031.

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-17 and ARSD 20:10:22:40, the parties to this proceeding are currently the Applicant and the Commission Staff. Each municipality, county, and governmental agency in the area where the facility is proposed to be sited; or any person residing in the area

where the facility is proposed to be sited, or any directly interested person may be granted party status in this proceeding by making timely written application to the Commission and establishing satisfaction of the one or more of the criteria listed in SDCL 49-41B-17. Applications for party status will be available at the public input meeting or may be obtained from the Commission's website. **Applications for party status must be filed with the Commission on or before 5:00 p.m., CT, December 1, 2026.** The Commission will also accept comments in writing from anyone, either by mail, personal delivery, or e-mail until the time of the decision. You only need to apply for party status if you want to participate formally in the case by putting on actual testimony or other factual evidence, conducting discovery, cross-examining witnesses, making legal arguments, and to preserve your right to appeal to the courts if you do not believe the Commission's decision is legally correct. You do not need to have party status in order to submit written comments.

Following the public input meeting, the Commission may schedule a formal evidentiary hearing conforming to SDCL Chapter 1-26 to consider issues raised by any party or the Commission itself. At such a formal hearing, all parties will have the opportunity to appear, present evidence, and cross-examine the other parties' witnesses and exercise all other rights afforded by SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-1, and 49-41B and ARSD Chapters 20:10:01 and 20:10:22, including rights of appeal to the courts.

For approval, Applicant must show that the proposed Project will comply with all applicable laws and rules, will not pose a threat of serious injury to the environment nor to the social and economic condition of inhabitants or expected inhabitants in the siting area, will not substantially impair the health, safety or welfare of the inhabitants, and will not unduly interfere with the orderly development of the region with due consideration having been given to the views of governing bodies of affected local units of government. Based upon these factors, the Commission will decide whether a permit to construct should be granted, denied, or granted upon such terms, conditions, or modifications of the construction, operation, or maintenance as the Commission finds appropriate. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Commission will hold a public input meeting on the Application and Project on the following date:

Monday, November 23, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. CT at the Dakota Event Center, 720 Lamont St. S, Aberdeen, SD 57401. It is further

ORDERED, that pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-17 and ARSD 20:10:22:40, **applications for party status should be filed on or before 5:00 p.m., CT, on December 1, 2026.**

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, this meeting will be held in physically accessible locations. Please contact the Public Utilities Commission at (605) 773-3201 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting if you have special needs so arrangements can be made to accommodate you.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 9th day of October 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: Amber M. Reiss

Date: 10/9/2026

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

GARY HANSON, Commissioner