



January 29, 2021

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen, Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 E. Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501

RE: In the Matter of Docket GE20-002 - NorthWestern Corporation, dba NorthWestern Energy, Regulatory Asset Quarterly Report

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen,

Included with this communication is NorthWestern Corporation's, dba NorthWestern Energy ("NorthWestern"), Regulatory Asset Quarterly Report as required in Docket GE20-002. Our report includes cumulative customer information for the period of April 1 through December 31, 2020. This information is provided in Attachment A to this communication.

NorthWestern only seeks to recover bad debt as COVID related costs in a regulatory asset; the establishment of which was allowed by the Commission in its order dated August 19, 2020 in the above referenced matter. NorthWestern incurred \$351,872 of electric bad debt expense in 2020, of which \$179,248 has been deferred into the Regulatory Asset, as that is the amount above the bad expense included in our most recent test year. NorthWestern incurred \$179,500 of natural gas bad debt expense in 2020, of which \$48,374 is deferred in the Regulatory Asset, as that is the amount above the test year level.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Pamela A. Bonrud

Director-Government and Regulatory Affairs

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