

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF THE)
JOINT APPLICATION OF NORTHWESTERN)
ENERGY PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION,)
BLACK HILLS CORPORATION AND)
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY GROUP, INC., FOR)
APPROVAL OF MERGER)
)**

**NOTICE OF CANCELATION
EVIDENTIARY HEARING**

GE25-001

On October 27, 2025, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a Joint Application by Black Hills Corporation (Black Hills) and NorthWestern Energy Group, Inc. (NorthWestern Group and collectively, the Merger Parties) and NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern) (together with Merger Parties, the Joint Applicants) for Approval of Merger.

On October 30, 2025, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of November 14, 2025, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filing electronic listserv. On December 3, 2025, the Commission granted South Dakota Laborers Local 620, the Great Plains Laborer's District Council, and the Laborers International Union of North America's (together, LIUNA) Petition to Intervene. On February 17, 2026, the Commission issued an Order Granting Motion and Stipulation to Extend Statutory Deadline to July 27, 2026.

On April 29, 2026, the Joint Applicants and Staff filed a Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation (Staff Settlement Stipulation). LIUNA did not join the Staff Settlement Stipulation.

On May 27, 2026, the Commission issued an Order for and Notice of Evidentiary Hearing providing notice that an evidentiary hearing in this matter would commence on June 22, 2026. On June 17, 2026, the Commission received from the Parties a Joint Motion for Approval of Two Settlement Stipulations and Stipulation for the Entry of all Pre-Filed Testimony and Exhibits (Joint Motion). In the Joint Motion, the Parties informed the Commission that a settlement has been reached between Joint Applicants and LIUNA (LIUNA Settlement) and requested that the Commission approve both the Staff Settlement and the LIUNA Settlement and approve the merger. The Parties having reached settlements which will be considered by the Commission at an ad hoc meeting on June 24, 2026, it is therefore

ORDERED, that the evidentiary hearing as noticed by the May 27, 2026, Commission Order is hereby canceled and the pending Motion for Time Certain for Witness Testimony will be considered moot and withdrawn.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 18th day of June 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: <u>[Signature]</u>
Date: <u>18 June 2026</u>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

[Signature: Chris Nelson]

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

[Signature: Kristie Fiegen]

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

[Signature: Gary Hanson]

GARY HANSON, Commissioner