

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE</b>	)	<b>Docket No. GE25-001</b>
<b>JOINT APPLICATION OF</b>	)	
<b>NORTHWESTERN ENERGY PUBLIC</b>	)	<b>JOINT MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF</b>
<b>SERVICE CORPORATION, BLACK</b>	)	<b>SETTLEMENT STIPULATION</b>
<b>HILLS CORPORATION, AND</b>	)	
<b>NORTHWESTERN ENERGY GROUP,</b>	)	
<b>INC. FOR APPROVAL OF A MERGER</b>	)	

Staff of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (“Staff”), together with Black Hills Corporation, NorthWestern Energy Group, Inc., NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy, jointly referred to as “Settling Parties,” hereby file the above referenced Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation (“Joint Motion”) with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”). The Settling Parties request that the Commission adopt the attached Settlement Stipulation as the settlement and resolution of all issues in this proceeding as between the Settling Parties. In support of this Joint Motion, the Settling Parties submit as follows: 1) this Joint Motion is made pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:19; 2) the Settlement Stipulation resolves all of the issues between the Settling Parties in Docket GE25-001; and 3) the terms of the Settlement Stipulation agreed upon are just and reasonable and consistent with South Dakota law.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, the undersigned Settling Parties jointly request the Commission grant this Joint Motion, adopt the attached Settlement Stipulation without modification, and enter an Order approving the merger.

This Joint Motion may be signed by the Settling Parties’ counsel in counterparts .

Respectfully submitted this 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026.

BLACK HILLS CORPORATION

By: /s/ Catherine M. Sabers  
Catherine M. Sabers  
7001 Mt. Rushmore Rd.  
Rapid City, SD 57702  
(605) 721-1914  
[cathy.sabers@blackhillscorp.com](mailto:cathy.sabers@blackhillscorp.com)

*Counsel for Black Hills Corporation*

NORTHWESTERN ENERGY PUBLIC  
SERVICE CORPORATION AND  
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY GROUP, INC.

By: /s/ Sarah N. Norcott  
Sarah N. Norcott  
208 N. Montana Ave., Suite 200  
Helena, Montana 59601  
(406) 443-8996  
[sarah.norcott@northwestern.com](mailto:sarah.norcott@northwestern.com)

*Counsel for NorthWestern Energy Public  
Service Corporation and NorthWestern  
Energy Group, Inc.*

STAFF OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

By: /s/ Logan Schaeffbauer  
Logan Schaeffbauer  
500 E. Capitol Ave.  
Pierre, SD 57501  
[Logan.schaeffbauer@state.sd.us](mailto:Logan.schaeffbauer@state.sd.us)

*Counsel for Staff of the South Dakota  
Public Utilities Commission*