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June 9, 2010

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen, Executive Director
S.D. Public Utilities Commission
State Capitol Building
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Re: Contract With Deviations - Natural Gas Service Agreement

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

With this letter, NorthWestern Corporation ("NorthWestern" or the "Company"), doing business as NorthWestern Energy, is filing with the Commission a proposed new natural gas Contract with Deviations (the "Contract") with South Dakota Wheat Growers, regarding their Aberdeen East Facility (the "Customer") for which we request Commission approval.

Pursuant to ARSD 20:10:13:36 and ARSD 20:10:13:39, the Company states:

(1) The documents submitted with this filing include:

- A copy of the executed proposed Contract, for which confidential treatment has been requested, pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:41 (see Exhibit A to this letter);
- A copy of the Workpapers that include the cost estimate for the Company to construct gas lines to the Customer's facilities;
- Maps that show the location of the lines to be constructed; and
- The proposed revised tariff schedule, Section 4, 1st Revised Sheet No. 2 "Summary List of Contracts with Deviations" which includes a reference to the Contract and the information required by ARSD 20:10:13:09.

The proposed effective date for the Contract with Deviation is June 15, 2010. The Company requests the Commission approve this contract with deviation on less than thirty days notice. The company plans to begin construction in late July. With the lead times required for material ordering, orders need to be placed as soon as possible in order to have gas available by this fall's drying season.

- (2) The names and addresses of those to whom copies of this filing have been mailed:

Roger Price
South Dakota Wheat Growers
110 6th Ave
Aberdeen, SD 57401-6024
rprice@sdwg.com

- (3) Brief description of the proposed deviation from the Company's standard rates:

NorthWestern currently serves the Customer under its tariff Rate 86. The Customer desires to expand its grain drying facility. This would require the Company to upgrade its system with ½ mile of 4 inch pipeline. The deviated rate will allow the Company to fully recover the cost of the upgrade. After all costs have been recovered, the Customer will revert back to Rate 86 tariff rates.

- (4) Reasons for the proposed deviation:

In order to insure that other rate payers are not responsible for the cost of this upgrade, the proposed contract requires a form of security (the customer has chosen a surety bond) as well as requires a minimum usage each year. The Customer desires a 10 year recovery period. Since the take or pay and security provisions are not stated in NorthWestern's tariff, a deviation from the tariff is required. As per the signed agreement, both the Company and the Customer agree to the security requirement and take or pay provisions.

- (5) Number of customers who's cost of service will be affected and annual changes in cost of service to such customers.

This proposed Contract will apply only to the Customer, and the affect on its cost of service is provided in the Contract.

Sincerely,



Jeff Decker
Rates Analyst

EXHIBIT A**REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT**

COMES NOW, NorthWestern Corporation, doing business as NorthWestern Energy ("NorthWestern" or the "Company"), and pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:41, requests confidential treatment as follows:

- 1) The documents for which confidential treatment is requested are the Natural Gas Delivery Distribution & Facilities Construction Agreement between NorthWestern and South Dakota Wheat Growers Aberdeen East (the "Customer"), dated June 8, 2010 (the "Contract"), and the Workpapers containing the Company's anticipated costs to construct facilities to the Customer's facilities;
- 2) The Company requests that such confidential treatment be afforded the Contract and Workpapers indefinitely, or, at a minimum, until the conclusion of the ten-year term of such Contract;
- 3) The name, address and phone number of the persons to be contacted regarding the confidentiality request are:

Jeffrey Decker	Pamela Bonrud
Regulatory Analyst	Director Regulatory Affairs
NorthWestern Energy	NorthWestern Energy
600 Market Street West	125 S. Dakota Avenue
Huron, SD 57350	Sioux Falls, SD 57103
(605) 353-8315	(605) 978-2990
- 4) The grounds for confidentiality are that the Contract and Workpapers provide proprietary information concerning both the Company and the Customer, including the pricing of natural gas service, the costs of construction for the facilities to serve the Customer, etc. Sharing this information to third parties may provide competitive advantages to the competitors for both NorthWestern and the Customer.
- 5) As a factual basis in support of this request, please see the response to item 4) above.

SOUTH DAKOTA GAS RATE SCHEDULE

NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION d/b/a NORTHWESTERN ENERGY	Section No. 4
HURON	<u>1st Revised</u> Sheet No. 2
SOUTH DAKOTA	Canceling <u>Original</u> Sheet No. 2

Contracts With Deviations (continued)

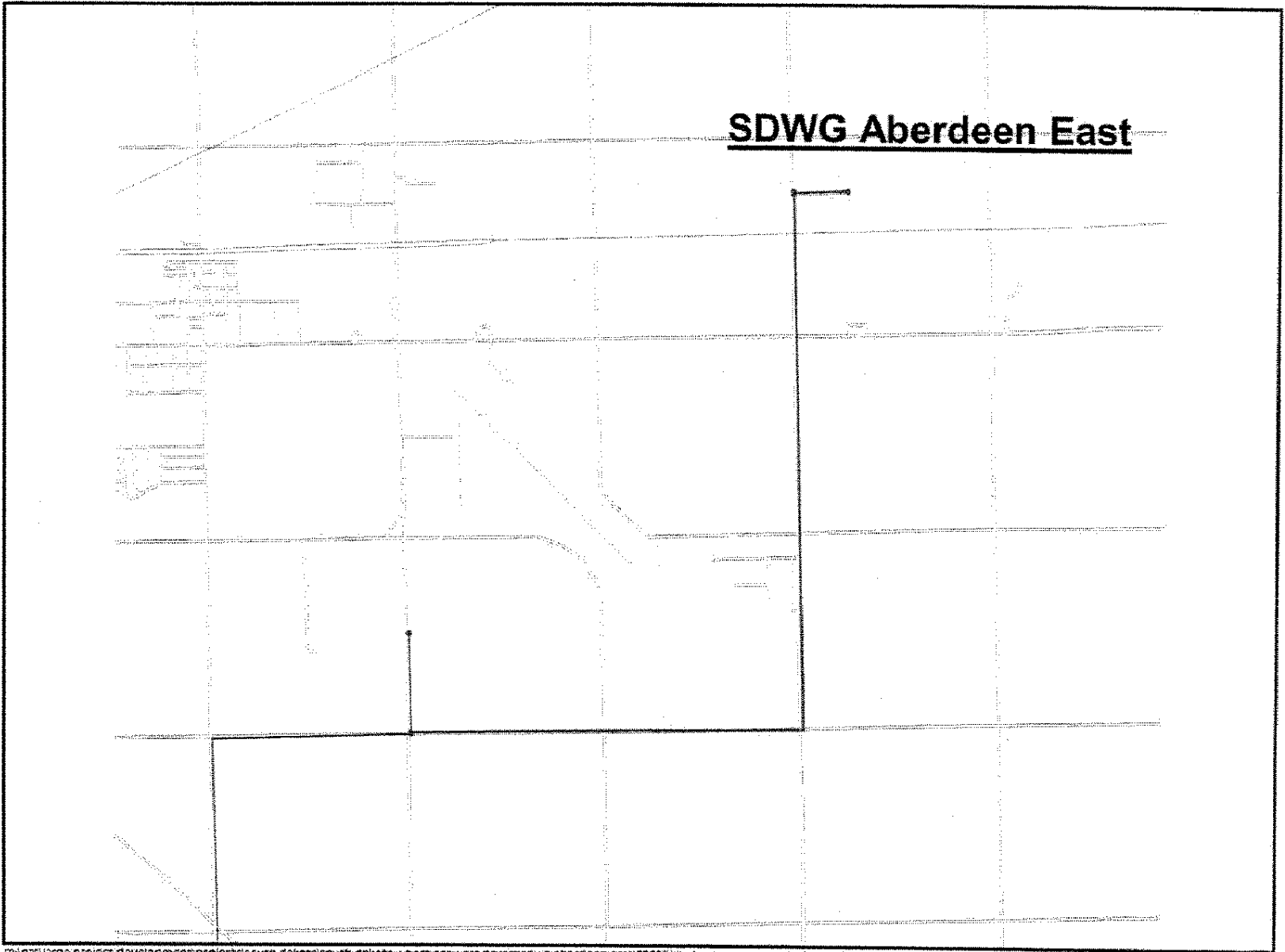
13. NuGen Energy, LLC – Marion
 Execution – 10/20/2009
 Expiration – 09/30/2010 or as described in agreement.
14. South Dakota Wheat Growers – Aberdeen East (N)
 Execution – 10/01/2010 or as described in agreement (N)
 Expiration – 10/01/2020 or as described in agreement. (N)

Date Filed: June 9, 2010

Effective Date: June 15, 2010

Effective on less than 30 days notice by authority of the
 Public Utilities Commission of South Dakota, dated

Jeffrey Decker
 Issued By: Regulatory Department



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