



Minnesota Energy Resources

2665 145th Street West

Rosemount, MN 55068-0455

March 4, 2011

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

RE: Proposed Withdrawal of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation Tariff
Docket No. NG11-001

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation (MERC) is seeking approval to withdraw its natural gas tariff as required by ARSD 20:10:13:38. In Docket No. NG11-001, Northwestern Energy requested the South Dakota Public Utility Commission's approval of its purchase of Northern Natural Gas's (NNG) Milbank pipeline. As part of that purchase, NorthWestern has agreed to take over MERC's contract with NNG to maintain and operate approximately 200 farm taps located along NNG's transmission pipeline in eastern South Dakota. MERC therefore requests the Commission's approval to withdraw its South Dakota tariff effective at the time of the closing of the transaction between NorthWestern and NNG.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gregory J. Walters". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Greg Walters
Manager, Regulatory and Legislative Affairs

cc: Burl Haar, Executive Secretary, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
William Grant, Director, Minnesota Office of Energy Security