



Public Utilities Commission

Public Hearing

NG11-003 – NorthWestern Rate Increase

Chris Nelson, Vice-Chairman

Scotland, South Dakota

October 17, 2011

Agenda

- **Players and Process (PUC)**
 - **Questions and Comment
(Public)**
-

Players

- **Commissioners (judges)**
 - **Parties (offering evidence, witnesses, etc.)**
 - **NorthWestern Energy**
 - **PUC Staff**
 - **Citizens (expressing comment)**
-

Process

- **Filing by NorthWestern**
 - **Based on actual costs for a historic test year with “known and measurable” adjustments**
 - **Burden is on NorthWestern**
-

Process (continued)

- **Review by PUC staff, others**
 - **Experts hired by PUC, discovery, data requests**
 - **Parties will develop their evidence on “just and reasonable” expenses, rate of return, and rate design**
 - **Settlement possible**
-

Process (continued)

- **Commission Hearing (No date set)**
 - **Formal hearing with testimony, cross-examination, and evidence, followed by legal briefing**
 - **Commission decisions on expenses, rate base, rate of return, revenue requirement, rate design**
 - **What is allowable?**
-

Commission Values

■ The “Public Interest”

- Open
 - Fair
 - Fact- and law-based
 - Diligent
-

How Can You Access the Filings in this Rate Case?

www.puc.sd.gov

800-332-1782

500 E. Capitol Ave.

Pierre, SD 57501

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission



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Capitol Building, 1st floor
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501-5070
Phone: (605) 773-3201
Toll-free Fax: 1-866-757-6031

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[NG11-003](#) Public Input Hearing, Oct. 17, 7 p.m. CDT, Basement Meeting Room, City Hall, 401 Main St., Scotland, S.D.

Listen LIVE to the Commission Meeting, Oct. 25, 9:30 a.m. CDT
Listen LIVE to the Commission Meeting, Nov. 8, 9:30 a.m. CDT

- ▶ [Keystone Pipeline Updates and FAQ](#)
- ▶ [Lifeline and Link-Up Telephone Assistance Programs](#)
- ▶ [Alltel and AT&T FAQ](#), updated May 4, 2011

Meet the Commissioners



Gary Hanson
Chairman
Elected 2002, 2008
Term Ends 2014



Chris Nelson
Vice Chairman
Appointed 2011
Term Ends 2012



Kristie Fiegen
Commissioner
Appointed 2011
Term Ends 2012



■ [Commission Dockets](#) | [previous page](#)

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Dockets

- [Administration Items](#)
- [Civil Dockets](#)
- [Complaint Dockets](#)
- [Electric Dockets](#)
- [Gas & Electric Dockets](#)
- [Grain Warehouse Dockets](#)
- [Hydrocarbon Pipeline Dockets](#)
- [Miscellaneous Dockets](#)
- [Natural Gas Dockets](#)
- [Pipeline Safety Dockets](#)
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Natural Gas Dockets

- [2011 Natural Gas Dockets](#)
- [2010 Natural Gas Dockets](#)
- [2009 Natural Gas Dockets](#)
- [2008 Natural Gas Dockets](#)
- [2007 Natural Gas Dockets](#)
- [2006 Natural Gas Dockets](#)
- [2005 Natural Gas Dockets](#)
- [2004 Natural Gas Dockets](#)
- [2003 Natural Gas Dockets](#)
- [2002 Natural Gas Dockets](#)
- [2001 Natural Gas Dockets](#)



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- [Forms](#)
- [News](#)
- [SD One Call](#)
- [SD Do Not Call Program](#)
- [SD Wind](#)
- [SD Energy Smart](#)
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■ [Commission Dockets](#) | [previous page](#)

2011 Natural Gas Dockets

NG11-001 - In the Matter of the Application of **NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy** for its purchase of the **Milbank NNG Pipeline**

Date Filed: 01/18/11 ♦ Closed: 04/11/11

NG11-002 - In the Matter of the Filing by **MidAmerican Energy Company** for Approval of Its 2010 Economic Development Activities and 2011 Proposed Budget

Date Filed: 04/08/11 ♦ Closed: 07/20/11

NG11-003 - In the Matter of the Application of **NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy** for Authority to Increase its Natural Gas Rates

Date Filed: 05/20/11 ♦ Pending

NG11-004 - In the Matter of the Filing by **NorthWestern Energy** for Approval of its Tariff Revisions

Date Filed: 08/26/11 ♦ Closed: 09/30/11

NG11-005 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval to Revise the Rates Included in the Contracts with Deviations Previously Approved in Dockets NG10-003, NG10-004, NG10-005, and NG10-006

Date Filed: 09/14/11 ♦ Closed: 09/30/11

NG11-006 - In the Matter of the Filing by **Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.** for Approval of its Revised Conservation Tracking Adjustment

Date Filed: 10/04/11 ♦ Pending

Public Comment

- Handouts and sign-in sheet
 - Speak into microphone
 - Say your name (spell last name)
 - Speak clearly and slowly
 - Be respectful of others' time
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