



**EXHIBIT A**  
**REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT**

COMES NOW, NorthWestern Corporation, doing business as NorthWestern Energy ("NorthWestern"), 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 Transportation Service Agreement between NorthWestern and Valley Queen Cheese Factory Inc. (the "Customer"), dated April 11, 2018 (the "Agreement"), Exhibit B and Exhibit C;
- 2) NorthWestern requests that such confidential treatment be afforded the Agreement, Exhibit B and Exhibit C indefinitely, or, at a minimum, until the conclusion of the term of the Agreement;
- 3) The name, address and phone number of the persons to be contacted regarding the confidentiality request are:

Jeff Decker	Pamela Bonrud
Specialist Regulatory	Director Government and Regulatory Affairs
NorthWestern Energy	NorthWestern Energy
600 Market St. West	3010 W. 69 <sup>th</sup> Street
Huron, SD 57350	Sioux Falls, SD 57108
(605) 353-8315	(605) 978-2900
- 4) The grounds for confidentiality are that the Agreement and exhibits provide proprietary information concerning both NorthWestern and the Customer, including the pricing of natural gas service. 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.