



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 Dakota Ethanol, LLC (the "*Customer*"), dated March 30, 2018 (the "*Agreement*") and Exhibit B;
- 2) NorthWestern requests that such confidential treatment be afforded the Agreement and Exhibit B 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
Specialist Regulatory
NorthWestern Energy
600 Market St. West
Huron, SD 57350
(605) 353-8315

Pamela Bonrud
Director Government and Regulatory Affairs
NorthWestern Energy
3010 W. 69th Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57108
(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 of NorthWestern or the Customer.
- 5) As a factual basis in support of this request, please see the response to item 4) above.