



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 is as follows:
  - a. NorthWestern Energy Responses to Staff’s Second Data Request portions of response to 1-7 and 1-8 and
  - b. Appendix A.
- 2) NorthWestern requests that such confidential treatment be afforded to the responses and Appendix A 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 & Regulatory Affairs
NorthWestern Energy	NorthWestern Energy
600 Market Street W.	3010 West 69th Street
Huron, SD 57350	Sioux Falls, SD 57108
Jeff.decker@northwestern.com	pam.bonrud@northwestern.com
(406) 443-8903	(605) 978-2990
- 4) The grounds for confidentiality are that said documents provide proprietary information concerning both NorthWestern and the Customer, including pricing information. Sharing this information to third parties may provide competitive advantages to the competitors of NorthWestern and the customer.
- 5) As a factual basis in support of this request, please see the response to item 4) above.