



December 3, 2024

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
State Capitol Building, 1st Floor
500 E. Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

via E-filing

Re: Amendment No. 1 to Transportation Service Agreement with Dakota Ethanol, L.L.C.

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

With this letter, NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation doing business as NorthWestern Energy (“NorthWestern”) is filing with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (the “Commission”) revisions to its Natural Gas Tariff. NorthWestern respectfully requests Commission approval of these proposed revisions.

Pursuant to ARSD 20:10:13:36 and ARSD 20:10:13:39 NorthWestern states:

1. The documents submitted with this filing include:

- The proposed revised tariff schedule, Section 4, 37th Revised Sheet No. 1, Summary List of Contracts with Deviations which includes a reference to the Transportation Service Agreement (the “TSA”) between NorthWestern and Dakota Ethanol, L.L.C. (“Customer”) and the information required by ARSD 20:10:13:09
- A copy of the executed proposed Amendment No. 1 to Transportation Service Agreement

2. The proposed effective date for the tariff revisions is January 1, 2025. NorthWestern requests approval for this amendment on less than 30 days’ notice.

3. The names and addresses of those to whom this filing has been emailed:

Paul Geraets
PO Box 100
Wentworth, SD 57075
pgeraets@dakotaethanol.com

4. Brief description of the tariff changes:

NorthWestern provides transportation service to Dakota Ethanol pursuant to a TSA dated March 30, 2018. NorthWestern delivers natural gas purchased by Dakota Ethanol from a town border station (“TBS”) delivery point on the Northern Natural Gas Company (“NNG”) pipeline to Dakota Ethanol’s ethanol facility near Wentworth, South Dakota. This TSA is on file as a contract with deviations and was approved by the Commission in Docket No. NG18-010.



Currently, balancing charges are billed and collected under the TSA pursuant to NorthWestern's SDPUC tariff. Now, however, Dakota Ethanol has asked to meet its balancing obligation pursuant to an End-User Allocation Agreement among NNG, NorthWestern (as the TBS Operator) and Dakota Ethanol (as the End-User). Dakota Ethanol has asked that this change begin January 1, 2025.

To accommodate the Customer's request, NorthWestern and Dakota Ethanol have entered into Amendment No. 1 to the TSA. This amendment revises Section 2.7 of the TSA to reflect that balancing will be pursuant to the End-User Allocation Agreement with NNG rather than pursuant to NorthWestern's SDPUC tariff. Two other ethanol customers have similar balancing arrangements in place. The language in this amendment aligns with the balancing provisions in those contracts with deviations, which were approved by the Commission in Docket Nos. NG21-001 and NG22-002.

The deviations from tariff requested in this filing include:

- Balancing pursuant to the End-User Allocation Agreement discussed above.

5. Reasons for the proposed tariff changes:

To accommodate the Customer's desire to balance directly with NNG.

6. Number of customers whose cost of service will be affected and annual changes in cost of service to such customers:

Dakota Ethanol will be the only customer affected by this filing. There is no revenue impact to NorthWestern or its customers due to this change.

Sincerely,

Jeff J. Decker

Lead - Regulatory Specialist

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