November 24, 2026

Ms. Leah Mohr *via eFiling*
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
State Capitol Building, 1st Floor
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

Re: *Request for Approval of a Contract with Deviations with POET Biorefining - Mitchell, LLC*

Ms. Mohr:

With this letter, NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy ("*NorthWestern*") is filing with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (the "*Commission*") revisions to its South Dakota Gas Rate Schedule. 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:*

   - Section No. 4, 39th Revised Sheet No. 1, Contracts with Deviations, which includes a reference to the Transportation Service Agreement (the "*Agreement*") between NorthWestern and POET Biorefining - Mitchell, LLC, ("*Customer*") and the information required by ARSD 20:10:13:09.
   - A copy of the executed proposed Agreement, for which confidential treatment is being requested, pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:41.
   - Exhibit A: Request for Confidential Treatment.
   - Exhibit B: Confidential work papers showing the calculation of the rate to serve this customer.

2. *The proposed effective date is January 1, 2027.*

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

   POET Biorefining- Mitchell, LLC
   3939 N Webb Rd.
   Wichita, KS 67226
   Attn: Rob Anderson
   Rob.Anderson@POET.com

4. *Brief description of the proposed tariff changes:*

Customer is a large consumer on NorthWestern's natural gas system. Customer's current five-year contract with deviations for natural gas transportation service expires December 31, 2026. As in other biofuel contract renewals approved by this Commission, NorthWestern formulated the rate for the next five years using the FERC method of calculating a management fee component as the return for serving the Customer. The updated rate also includes operation and maintenance and administrative costs, and an allocation of common and general plant assets. Ad valorem tax costs will be recovered using the rate for 87B customers. Using system-wide averages for the cost recovery of this Customer provides a benefit to existing rate-base customers. The contract language in this agreement is consistent with similar ongoing biofuel arrangements.

The deviations from tariff requested in this filing include:

- The rate at which the Customer is served.
- Zero Fuel retention cost as Customer is a direct connect customer.
- Termination conditions as set forth in the Agreement.

Except for the deviations described above, this Customer will be served under Rate No. 87, and all other conditions of the general terms and conditions will apply.

5. *Reasons for the proposed tariff changes:*

NorthWestern desires to provide Customer with continuing natural gas service after the current five-year agreement expires. This new rate will allow NorthWestern to maintain this Customer and will benefit NorthWestern and its natural gas customers through recovery of administrative and general costs and common costs from this Customer.

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

POET Biorefining – Mitchell, LLC will be the only customer affected by this filing.

Sincerely,

Jeff J. Decker
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