November 25, 2026

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

Re: *Request for Approval of an Amended and Restated Contract with Deviations with Dakota Ethanol, L.L.C..*

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 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 No. 4, 40th Revised Sheet No. 1, Summary List of Contracts with Deviations, which includes a reference to the Amended and Restated Transportation Service Agreement (the "*Agreement*") 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 Agreement, for which confidential treatment is being requested, pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:41 (see Exhibit A to this letter).
   - Confidential work papers showing the calculation of the project cost and cost recovery (see Exhibit B to this letter).

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

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

   Dakota Ethanol, L.L.C
   46269 South Dakota Highway 34
   P.O. Box 104
   Wentworth, SD 57075
   Attn: Rob Buchholtz, CFO
   rbuchholtz@dakotaethanol.com

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

   NorthWestern provides transportation service to Dakota Ethanol pursuant to a Transportation Service Agreement dated March 30, 2018, as amended on January 1, 2025 ("*Existing TSA*"). 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. The Existing TSA is on file as a contract with deviations and was approved by the Commission in Docket No. NG18-010. In 2024, the Customer requested approval to meet its balancing obligations pursuant to an End-User Allocation Agreement. To accommodate the Customer's request, the Existing TSA was amended and approved by the Commission in Docket No. NG24-012.

Customer is increasing its plant size. In order to accommodate this plant expansion, Customer has requested the natural gas capacity available under its contract be increased from 5,950 MMBtu per day to 10,500 MMBtu per day. In order to provide the requested capacity, NorthWestern must install additional infrastructure, which includes approximately 8.82 miles of pipe, upgrades to NorthWestern's existing regulator station, meter and associated pipeline equipment. The map shown in Exhibit A on page 12 of the Agreement illustrates the additional pipe infrastructure.

The project costs and tariff delivery charges will be recovered through the proposed rate for the volume of gas transported to the facilities. The Customer has agreed to a minimal annual obligation of 2,384,593 MMBtu. The Agreement includes a 10-year term. Annual reviews will be conducted to determine if the volume obligation is satisfied.

The deviations from tariff requested in this filing include:

- A delivery rate other than the tariff rate;
- Annual take-or-pay volume requirements;
- Requirement of a letter of credit or other security from Customer; and
- Termination conditions as set forth in the Agreement.

Except for the deviations described above and the Balancing per the End-User Allocation Agreement approved in NG24-012, Customer will be served under tariff rates and all other conditions of the general terms and conditions.

5. *Reasons for the proposed tariff changes:*

NorthWestern desires to provide the Customer with its requested level of natural gas transportation service. The additional protections included in this Agreement provide security for NorthWestern and its legacy customers.

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

Dakota Ethanol, L.L.C. will be the only customer affected by this filing.

Sincerely,

Jeff J. Decker
Regulatory Specialist
jeff.decker@northwestern.com
O 605-353-8315