



Gary Hanson, Chair
Steve Kolbeck, Vice Chair
Dustin Johnson, Commissioner

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070
www.puc.sd.gov

Capitol Office
(605) 773-3201
1-866-757-6031 fax

Warehouse
(605) 773-5280
(605) 773-3225 fax

Consumer Hotline
1-800-332-1782

September 9, 2008

Ms. Melissa Baruth, DOT Coordinator
NorthWestern Energy
PO Box 1318
600 Market Street
Huron, SD 57350-1500

RE: South Dakota Public Utilities Commission Docket PS08-002

Dear Ms. Baruth:

On September 9, 2008, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (SDPUC) received notice from the federal Office of Pipeline Safety that it does not object to waiver granted by the SDPUC in docket PS08-002 of 49 CFR 192.285 (c) as long as NorthWestern establishes written alternative plastic pipe joining procedures as noted in the attached letter.. Please consider this waiver request approved as of September 9, 2008 for all of NorthWestern Energy's South Dakota gas operations and modify your written procedures accordingly.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns regarding this approval.

Sincerely,

Nathan D. Solem
Acting Pipeline Safety Program Manager

attachment

Cc: Ivan Huntoon, PHMSA Office of Pipeline Safety Central Region
Brett Koenecke, May, Adam, Gerdes & Thompson LLP