

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY)
COMMISSION PIPELINE SAFETY STAFF)
REGARDING AN INSPECTOR INCIDENT)
INVESTIGATION ON NORTHWESTERN)
ENERGY PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION)
DBA NORTHWESTERN ENERGY'S SYSTEM)

ORDER APPROVING
INCIDENT REPORT

PS26-001

On January 22, 2026, Commission Pipeline Safety Staff (Staff) opened docket pursuant to ARSD 20:10:37:11 and 20:10:37:13. On December 3, 2025, the Commission received notification of an incident from NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern Energy) due to a vehicle accident south of Aberdeen, South Dakota, that resulted in a release of gas and damage on NorthWestern Energy's system with gas loss exceeding 3 million cubic feet. Upon receipt of the report, Pipeline Safety staff conducted an investigation and issued a report pursuant to ARSD 20:10:37:13, concluding the incident occurred due to outside force damage.

On January 26, 2026, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing to interested individuals and entities. No Comments were filed. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34B and ARSD 20:10:37.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on February 12, 2026, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the Staff's Incident Report. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Staff Incident Report is hereby approved.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 13th day of February 2026.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically.

By: Kristie Fiegen

Date: 13 February 2026

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner