

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT FILED)	ORDER FINDING
BY 72 THOMAS, LLC, SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH)	PROBABLE CAUSE AND
DAKOTA, AGAINST NORTHERN STATES)	NOTICE REQUIRING
POWER COMPANY REGARDING)	ANSWER
UNAUTHORIZED TRANSFER OF ACCOUNT)	
FOR ELECTRICAL SERVICE)	CE99-004

On December 15, 1999, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a complaint filed by Steve Willis, on behalf of 72 Thomas, LLC, Sioux Falls, South Dakota (Complainant), against Northern States Power Company (NSP). Complainant alleges that NSP transferred outstanding balances of previous tenants to the limited liability company without approval. Complainant requested a detailed listing of account transfers, a credit for inappropriate transfers, and a review of NSP's transfer policy.

Pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:08.01 and 20:10:01:09, if a complaint cannot be settled without formal action, the Commission shall determine if the complaint shows probable cause of an unlawful or unreasonable act, rate, practice or omission to go forward with the complaint.

On January 6, 2000, the Commission considered this matter. Steve Willis, on behalf of the Complainant, appeared via teleconference and explained his position. A representative of NSP appeared and stated NSP's position. Commission Staff recommended a finding of probable cause.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-34A. The Commission voted unanimously to find probable cause. It is therefore

ORDERED, that pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:09, the Commission finds that there is probable cause of an unlawful or unreasonable act, rate, practice, or omission and the complaint shall be forwarded to NSP and NSP shall satisfy the complaint or file with the Commission its answer in writing within twenty (20) days of service of this order.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 12th day of January, 2000.

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, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.
By: <u>Helaine Kalbo</u>
Date: <u>1/13/00</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner