

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT FILED ) BY JAMES AND MARY BETH MOSS, SIOUX ) FALLS, SD, AGAINST NORTHERN STATES ) POWER COMPANY REGARDING A BILL )	ORDER DISMISSING COMPLAINT AND CLOSING DOCKET EL97-009
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On May 3, 1997, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a complaint filed by James and Mary Beth Moss (Complainants), Sioux Falls, South Dakota, against Northern States Power Company (Respondent) regarding payment arrangements on a past-due bill. Complainants indicated that they acknowledged the past-due amount and that they have been making payments to reduce that amount. Complainants further indicated that Respondent was dissatisfied with the payment amounts submitted by them and had issued a notice of disconnection to become effective unless Complainants paid an amount which they claimed was unreasonable given their circumstances. Complainants asked that the Commission allow them to continue making "good faith" payments on their debt. The Commission found probable cause in this matter at its May 13, 1997, Commission meeting.

On July 15, 1997, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the matter, along with comments from Respondent and Staff.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A and ARSD Chapter 20:10:01. Because the Complainants have moved out of state and have apparently abandoned their complaint, the Commission unanimously voted to dismiss the complaint and close the docket. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that the complaint be dismissed and that docket EL97-009 be closed.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1997.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
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><i>William Kelso</i></u>
Date: <u>7/29/97</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