

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY)	ORDER APPROVING TARIFF
NORTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY)	REVISIONS
FOR TARIFF REVISIONS)	
)	EL97-014

On July 15, 1997, Northwestern Public Service Company, Huron, SD (NWPS), filed with the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) a proposed new Extended Service Rider termed "Option L." Option L involves long-term service agreements with large industrial customers of NWPS and discounts for service depending on the length of the agreement.

The proposed additions to NWPS' South Dakota Electric Rate Schedule are as follows:

IN SECTION 3:

- Original Sheet No. 21
- Original Sheet No. 21.1
- Original Sheet No. 21.2

At a regularly noticed and scheduled meeting on October 28, 1997, the Commission considered approval of the application. Commission Staff recommended approval as the tariffs now include language as proposed by staff.

The Commission found that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A. The Commission found that NWPS must file an annual report that depicts the following:

1. The current extended service agreement for each customer.
2. The previous 12 months' usage and margin from the date of the extended service agreement for each customer.
3. A comparison of the margin that would have been received under the applicable tariff without the discount and the margin with the discount for each customer for the reporting period.
4. The usage for each customer for the reporting period.

Further, the Commission found that the revised tariffs are just and reasonable and shall be approved. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that Northwestern Public Service Company's revised tariffs as described above are approved and shall be effective for service rendered on and after November 1, 1997; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that NWPS shall file an annual report as discussed above.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 3rd day of November, 1997.

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><i>Delaine Kalbs</i></u>
Date: <u>11/4/97</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