

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY)
NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION D/B/A)
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY FOR APPROVAL)
OF A CONTRACT WITH DEVIATIONS)
)**

**ORDER APPROVING
CONTRACT WITH
DEVIATIONS**

EL11-028

On December 8, 2011, the Commission received an application by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern) for approval of a contract with deviations to extend three-phase electric distribution service. NorthWestern will install, or arrange to install, approximately 1700 feet of underground three phase primary to a grain bin site. NorthWestern requested an effective date of December 20, 2011, and approval with less than 30 days notice. The revised tariff sheet is as follows:

South Dakota Electric Rate Schedule

Section 4

11th Revised Sheet No. 1

Canceling 10th Revised Sheet No. 1

On December 15, 2011, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of December 19, 2011, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene were filed. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-38A-8.3, 49-34A-10, 49-34A-12, and ARSD 20:10:13:20.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of December 20, 2011, the Commission considered this matter. Commission Staff recommended approval. Finding that NorthWestern's request for approval of a Contract with Deviations and associated tariff sheet is just and reasonable for service rendered on or after December 20, 2011, the Commission voted unanimously to grant the request for approval of contract with deviations with less than 30 days notice. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the request seeking approval of a Contract with Deviations is in the public interest and is hereby granted; and it is further

ORDERED, that the above-referenced tariff sheet is approved with less than 30 days notice and is effective for services rendered on and after December 20, 2011.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 22nd day of December, 2011.

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: <u>Joy King</u>
Date: <u>Dec 22, 2011</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner