BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION, DBA NORTHWESTERN ENERGY FOR APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT WITH DEVIATIONS ORDER APPROVING CONTRACT WITH DEVIATIONS

EL11-022

On August 2, 2011, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing by NorthWestern Corporation, dba NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern) requesting approval of a contract with deviations. The proposed contract will add a second transformer that will serve a proposed addition at the Andes Central School. NorthWestern will install, or arrange for installation of approximately 790 feet of underground cable and a 300 KVA transformer. NorthWestern has requested an effective date of September 13, 2011. On August 4, 2011, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of August 19, 2011, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. Commission Staff filed a letter of recommendations on September 8, 2011. The revised tariff sheet is as follows:

South Dakota Electric Rate Schedule

Section No. 4, 9th Revised Sheet No. 1 - Replacing Section No. 4, 8th Revised Sheet No. 1

At its regularly scheduled meeting of September 13, 2011, the Commission considered this matter. Commission Staff recommended approval.

The Commission finds that is has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically 49-34A-6, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-38A-8.3, 49-34A-10, 49-34A-11, and 49-34A-12, and ARSD 20:10:13:09, 20:10:13:10, and 20:10:13:36. Further, the Commission finds that NorthWestern's request for approval of a Contract with Deviations and associated tariff sheet is just and reasonable and shall be approved for service rendered on or after September 13, 2011. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, 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-mentioned tariff is approved effective for services rendered on and after September 13, 2011.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this <u>14</u> day of September, 2011.

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: Time Douglas
Date: 9-14-11
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION: Ghairman GARY HAN NELSON, Vice Chairman