

**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**

EL12-047

On July 18, 2012, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing by NorthWestern Corporation, dba NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern) requesting approval of a Contract with Deviations. The proposed contract would provide electric service to a new municipal pump with the municipality paying for the cost to extend services to the pump location. Inclusion of these costs would place the charges outside the tariffed rates currently on file with the Commission. NorthWestern has requested an effective date of September 1, 2012. The revised tariff sheet is as follows:

South Dakota Electric Rate Schedule

Section 4

12th Revised Sheet No. 1

Canceling 11th Revised Sheet No. 1

On July 19, 2012, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of August 3, 2012, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. The Commission finds 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-11, 49-34A-12, and ARSD 20:10:13:09, 20:10:13:10.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of August 28, 2012, the Commission considered this matter. Commission Staff recommended approval. NorthWestern stated that it would file a revised tariff sheet listing contracts with deviations with uncompleted contract terms. 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 September 1, 2012, the Commission voted unanimously to grant the request for approval of contract with deviations. 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 revised tariff sheet is approved effective for services rendered on and after September 1, 2012.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 29 day of August, 2012.

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>[Signature]</u>
Date: <u>8.29.12</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

[Signature: Chris Nelson]

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

[Signature: Kristie Fiegen]

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

[Signature: Gary Hanson]
GARY HANSON, Commissioner