

**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 AND TARIFF REVISION EL17-034
--	--

On August 17, 2017, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern) requesting approval of a contract with deviations with Ag Processing Inc. (AGP) and the associated tariff revision. The proposed contract with deviations would not provide a deviation from rates, but would require annual take or pay volume requirements and financial security in the amount of the capital investment in order to protect its legacy customers. NorthWestern proposes an effective date of October 1, 2017. The revised tariff sheet is as follows:

South Dakota Electric Rate Schedule

Section No. 4
17th Revised Sheet No. 1 Canceling 16th Revised Sheet No. 1

On August 24, 2017, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of September 8, 2017, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. On September 14, 2017, NorthWestern filed responses to Staff's data requests.

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-11, and 49-34A-12 and ARSD 20:10:13:09 and 20:10:13:10.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on September 26, 2017, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff recommended approval. Finding that NorthWestern's request for approval of a contract with deviations with Ag Processing Inc. and the associated tariff sheet is just and reasonable and in the public interest for service rendered on and after October 1, 2017, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the contract with deviations and the associated tariff sheet. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the proposed contract with deviations and associated tariff sheet is hereby granted and is effective for services rendered on and after October 1, 2017.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 26th day of September, 2017.

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 or by mail.
By: <u>Adam DeHueck</u>
Date: <u>9/26/17</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Chairperson

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner