

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT FILED) BY TERESA VOGEL, DOLAND, SD, AGAINST) NORTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE) REGARDING A DISCONNECTION)))))	ORDER DISMISSING COMPLAINT AND CLOSING DOCKET GE97-001
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On March 21, 1997, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a complaint from Teresa Vogel (Complainant), Doland, SD, against Northwestern Public Service (NWPS). The complaint involves a dispute of the amount Complainant owes NWPS. In the complaint, the Complainant indicates a desire to make payments on the correct amount owed and alleges that an NWPS' employee had recommended that payments be withheld until the correct billing amount was determined. NWPS has foregone disconnection of Complainant's account pending the Commission's consideration of this matter.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A-2, 49-34A-4, and ARSD 20:10:01:07.01, 20:10:01:08.01 and 20:10:01:09. Pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:08.01 and 20:10:01:09, if a complaint cannot be settled without formal action, the Commission shall determine if the complaint shows probable cause of an unlawful or unreasonable act, rate, practice or omission to go forward with the complaint.

On March 26, 1997, at a duly noticed ad hoc meeting, the Commission reviewed the complaint and voted to find that there was not probable cause of an unlawful or unreasonable act, rate, practice, or omission and that the complaint be dismissed and the docket closed. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the complaint be dismissed and that docket GE97-001 be closed.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 2nd day of April, 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>William Kaebs</i></u>
Date: <u>4/2/97</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