

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY )</b>	<b>ORDER APPROVING</b>
<b>NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION D/B/A )</b>	<b>DEMAND SIDE</b>
<b>NORTHWESTERN ENERGY FOR )</b>	<b>MANAGEMENT PLAN</b>
<b>APPROVAL OF ITS SOUTH DAKOTA )</b>	
<b>DEMAND SIDE MANAGEMENT PLAN )</b>	<b>GE09-001</b>

On October 1, 2009, NorthWestern Corporation, d/b/a NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern) filed a petition with the Commission for approval of its South Dakota Demand Side Management Plan. In its petition, NorthWestern requested to implement new energy efficiency programs targeting electricity and natural gas customers. NorthWestern also proposed to recover costs associated with the Plan via a monthly tracking mechanism that includes a financial incentive for the company. On April 29, 2010, Staff filed its Memorandum in this matter.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on May 4, 2010, the Commission considered this matter. Following a presentation by NorthWestern, Staff recommended that NorthWestern's South Dakota Demand Side Management Plan be approved with the following conditions:

1. NorthWestern's Residential Lighting Rebate Program be omitted from the Plan;
2. NorthWestern's Cost Recovery Rider shall be at a rate to be approved in a subsequent filing, and annually thereafter; and
3. Allow NorthWestern to make a return on their expenses approved in a subsequent filing, similar to rates approved by the Commission in other energy efficiency programs.

The Commission voted unanimously to approve NorthWestern's Demand Side Management Plan with Staff recommendations.

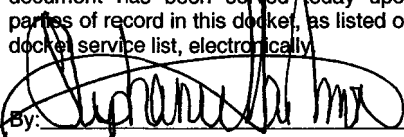
The Commission finds it has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-8.2, 49-34A-10, 49-34A-11, and 49-34A-25. Further, the Commission finds that NorthWestern's request for approval of its energy efficiency plan, as modified by Staff's recommendations, is just and reasonable and shall be approved. It is therefore

ORDERED, that NorthWestern's Demand Side Management Plan be approved with the following conditions:

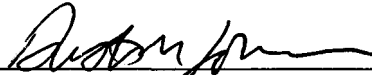
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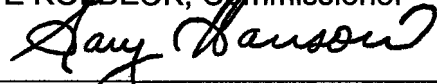
Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2010.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>By: <u></u></p> <p>Date: <u>05/11/10</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
DUSTIN M. JOHNSON, Chairman

  
STEVE KOLBECK, Commissioner

  
GARY HANSON, Commissioner