

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY )	ORDER APPROVING
NORTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE FOR )	CONTRACT WITH
APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH )	DEVIATIONS
DEVIATIONS WITH DAKOTA ETHANOL - )	
LAKE AREA CORN PROCESSORS )	NG99-004

On August 24, 1999, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing by NorthWestern Public Service (NWPS) requesting approval of its 5th Revised Sheet No. 1 of Section 4 of NWPS' filed Natural Gas Tariff. The revised schedule lists an additional Contract with Deviations pursuant to which NWPS proposes to serve a new ethanol plant at a site near Wentworth. The negotiated delivery service rate recovers related cost of service and represents a net benefit to NWPS' system and its customer base. The proposed contract becomes effective on the date of Commission approval and will be used by Lake Area Corn Processors in making a final determination as to the site of the ethanol plant.

On December 14, 1999, at a regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the request for approval of the Contract with Deviations. Commission Staff recommended approval.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-8.3, 49-34A-10, and 49-34A-11. Further, the Commission finds that NWPS' request for approval of a Contract with Deviations is just and reasonable and shall be approved. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that as of the date of this Order, 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 and is effective for service rendered on and after the date of this order.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of December, 1999.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
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>Albino Keeko</u>
Date: <u>12/23/99</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