

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY)	ORDER APPROVING
NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION D/B/A)	TARIFF REVISIONS
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY FOR APPROVAL)	
OF TARIFF REVISIONS)	NG05-014

On October 28, 2005, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy (NWE) for approval of tariff revisions to its natural gas transportation tariffs, including changes to customer balancing, imbalance penalties, cash out provisions, standby service options, general terms and conditions and sample forms. NorthWestern states the proposed revisions will address changes at the federal level concerning industry standard rules and procedures and also address certain current operating conditions. The revisions will also update tariffs to reflect the name change from NorthWestern Public Service Company to NorthWestern Energy. NWE filed the following tariff sheets for Commission approval:

Section No. 3:

3rd Revised Sheet No. 6.3, Canceling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 6.3
Original Sheet No. 6.3A
1st Revised Sheet No. 6.4, Canceling Original Sheet No. 6.4
Original Sheet No. 6.4A
1st Revised Sheet No. 6.5, Canceling Original Sheet No. 6.5
Original Sheet No. 6.5A
1st Revised Sheet No. 6.6, Canceling Original Sheet No. 6.6
1st Revised Sheet No. 6.7, Canceling Original Sheet No. 6.7
1st Revised Sheet No. 6.8, Canceling Original Sheet No. 6.8
2nd Revised Sheet No. 6.10, Canceling 1st Revised Sheet No. 6.10
1st Revised Sheet No. 6.11, Canceling Original Sheet No. 6.11
131st Revised Sheet No. 9b, Canceling 130th Revised Sheet No. 9b

Section No. 5:

1st Revised Sheet No. 6.1, Canceling Original Sheet No. 6.1
2nd Revised Sheet No. 6.4, Canceling 1st Revised Sheet No. 6.4
2nd Revised Sheet No. 6.5, Canceling 1st Revised Sheet No. 6.5
2nd Revised Sheet No. 6.6, Canceling 1st Revised Sheet No. 6.6
Original Sheet No. 6.6A
2nd Revised Sheet No. 7.1, Canceling 1st Revised Sheet No. 7.1
2nd Revised Sheet No. 7.2, Canceling 1st Revised Sheet No. 7.2
2nd Revised Sheet No. 7.3, Canceling 1st Revised Sheet No. 7.3

Section No. 6:

- 1st Revised Sheet No. 24.1, Canceling Original Sheet No. 24.1
- 1st Revised Sheet No. 24.2, Canceling Original Sheet No. 24.2
- 1st Revised Sheet No. 24.3, Canceling Original Sheet No. 24.3
- Original Sheet No. 24.4
- 1st Revised Sheet No. 25.1, Canceling Original Sheet No. 25.1
- 1st Revised Sheet No. 25.2, Canceling Original Sheet No. 25.2
- 1st Revised Sheet No. 25.3, Canceling Original Sheet No. 25.3
- 1st Revised Sheet No. 26, Canceling Original Sheet No. 26
- 1st Revised Sheet No. 27, Canceling Original Sheet No. 27
- 1st Revised Sheet No. 28, Canceling Original Sheet No. 28

At its regularly scheduled meeting on December 6, 2005, the Commission considered this matter. Commission Staff recommended approval.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A-4 and 49-34A-6. The Commission further finds that the filing is just and reasonable and shall be approved. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that the request seeking approval of tariff revisions is in the public interest and is hereby granted. It is further

ORDERED, that the above referenced tariff sheets are approved and are effective for service rendered on and after January 1, 2006.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 14th day of December, 2005.

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>Delaine Kolbo</i></u>
Date: <u>12/14/05</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Robert K. Sahr
ROBERT K. SAHR, Commissioner

Dustin M. Johnson
DUSTIN M. JOHNSON, Commissioner