

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY) ORDER APPROVING
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY FOR APPROVAL) TARIFF REVISIONS
OF TARIFF REVISIONS) NG05-012

On August 30, 2005, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from NorthWestern Energy (NWE) for approval of tariff revisions to the fuel retention percentage in the gas transportation tariff. The proposed revisions would decrease the fuel retention percentage. NWE filed the following tariff sheet for Commission approval:

Section No. 5, 10th Revised Sheet No. 6.2, Canceling 9th Revised Sheet No. 6.2

At its regularly scheduled meeting on September 27, 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 sheet is approved and is effective for service rendered on and after October 1, 2005.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 4th day of October, 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>Helaine Kolbo</u>
Date: <u>10/4/05</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