

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)	ORDER GRANTING JOINT MOTION
OF SOUTH DAKOTA INTRASTATE)	FOR APPROVAL OF THE
PIPELINE COMPANY FOR AUTHORITY)	SETTLEMENT STIPULATION
TO INCREASE ITS NATURAL GAS)	
RATES)	NG17-009

On June 1, 2017, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a Letter of Transmittal from South Dakota Intrastate Pipeline Company (SDIP) requesting authority to increase its natural gas rates. The filing did not include a proposed rate or any of the supporting documents required by statute and rule. The filing indicated that SDIP would file the applicable required documents no later than June 30, 2017, and requested an effective date of September 1, 2018, for the proposed rate. On June 5, 2017, Commission staff (Staff) filed a letter stating that the filing did not meet the requirements for a rate case and was therefore incomplete and subject to rejection. Additionally, Staff indicated that because the filing was incomplete, it did not comply with the terms of the Settlement Agreement approved by the Commission in NG16-006 and requested guidance from the Commission on how to proceed.

On June 8, 2017, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 31, 2017, to interested persons on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No comments were filed.

On June 13, 2017, the Commission issued an Order to Clarify Docket Procedure. On June 22, 2017, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU) filed a Petition to Intervene. On June 29, 2017, SDIP filed a confidential application for authority to increase its natural gas rates by approximately \$1.8 million, or 80.9 percent (Application). On July 6, 2017, the Commission issued an Order Granting Intervention; Order Assessing Filing Fee. On July 11, 2017, MDU filed a Motion for Commission Review requesting the Commission strike SDIP's claim of confidentiality made in its Application and open the docket submissions to MDU and the public for review. On July 28, 2017, SDIP filed a redacted public version of its Application. On August 8, 2017, the Commission issued an Order Granting Motion for Commission Review and Making Application Public (Commissioner Hanson, dissenting). On August 3, 2017, SDIP filed documents to comply with the Order Granting Motion for Commission Review and Making Application Public. On October 2, 2017, Staff filed a Motion for Adoption of Procedural Schedule. On October 16, 2017, the Commission issued an Order Establishing Partial Procedural Schedule; Order Requiring Discovery Responses Within Ten Business Days. On October 17, 2017, Staff filed a Motion to Compel SDIP to Provide Responses to Staff's Data Requests. On October 19, 2017, Staff withdrew its Motion to Compel SDIP to Provide Responses to Staff's Data Requests. On October 30, 2017, the Commission issued an Order Establishing Procedural Schedule.

On November 20, 2017, SDIP filed Supplemental Direct Testimony and Exhibits revising the requested increase to approximately \$250,000, or 11.4 percent. On February 15, 2018, Ring-neck Energy & Feed, LLC dba Ring-neck Energy, LLC (Ring-neck) filed a Petition to Intervene. On February 21, 2018, SDIP and Staff each filed a Response to Ring-neck's Petition to Intervene. On March 2, 2018, the Commission issued an Order Granting Late Filed Intervention; Amending Procedural Schedule. On March 27, 2018, Staff filed a letter requesting that the procedural schedule be suspended. On May 29, 2018, Staff filed a Motion for a Second Procedural Schedule. On June 8, 2018, SDIP filed a Request for Hearing to Compel Settlement Agreement and Response to Staff's Motion for Second Procedural Schedule. On June 11, 2018, Staff filed its

Reply to SDIP's Request for Hearing to Compel Settlement Agreement and Response to Staff's Motion for Second Procedural Schedule.

On June 19, 2018, the Commission issued an Order Granting Motion for Second Procedural Schedule; Order Establishing Second Procedural Schedule. On June 20, 2018, a Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation and Settlement Stipulation was filed and Staff filed its Memorandum Supporting Settlement Stipulation.

The revised tariff sheets proposed by SDIP, effective for service rendered on and after September 1, 2018, were filed as Exhibit A to the Settlement Stipulation. The revised tariff sheets are as follows:

State of South Dakota Gas Rate Schedule – SD P.U.C.

Section 1

1st Revised Sheet No. 1 Cancelling Original Sheet No. 1

Section 2

1st Revised Sheet No. 1 Cancelling Original Sheet No. 1

Section 3

1st Revised Sheet No. 1 Cancelling Original Sheet No. 1

1st Revised Sheet No. 2 Cancelling Original Sheet No. 2

1st Revised Sheet No. 3 Cancelling Original Sheet No. 3

Section 4

1st Revised Sheet No. 1 Cancelling Original Sheet No. 1

Section 5

1st Revised Sheet No. 1 Cancelling Original Sheet No. 1

1st Revised Sheet No. 2 Cancelling Original Sheet No. 2

1st Revised Sheet No. 3 Cancelling Original Sheet No. 3

Section 6

1st Revised Sheet No. 1 Cancelling Original Sheet No. 1

Original Sheet No. 2

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-1, and 49-34A, specifically, 1-26-20, 49-34A-3, , 49-34A-4, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-8.4, 49-34A-10, 49-34A-11, 49-34A-12, 49-34A-13, 49-34A-13.1, 49-34A-19, 49-34A-19.1, 49-34A-19.2, 49-34A-21, and ARSD 20:10:13.

The Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation was noticed for Commission consideration and action at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 26, 2018. The Commission heard from SDIP, MDU, and Staff concerning the Settlement Stipulation and Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation. Having thoroughly reviewed the filings in the docket and made further inquiry of the parties, the Commission found that the terms and conditions proposed in the Settlement Stipulation were just, reasonable, and in the public interest and that good and sufficient cause was demonstrated to grant the Joint Motion for Approval of the Settlement Stipulation and thereby approve the Settlement Stipulation. The Commission voted unanimously to grant the Joint Motion for Approval of the Settlement Stipulation. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Joint Motion for Approval of the Settlement Stipulation is hereby granted. The Settlement Stipulation is incorporated by reference into this Decision and Order the same as if it had been set forth in its entirety herein. It is further

ORDERED, that the tariff sheets set forth above are approved for the service rendered on and after September 1, 2018.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 6th day of July 2018.

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, electronically or by mail.
By: <u>Karen E. Cremer</u>
Date: <u>07/06/18</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kristie Feigen
KRISTIE FEIGEN, Chairperson

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner