

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY)
NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION DBA)
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY FOR)
APPROVAL OF ITS GAS)
TRANSPORTATION TARIFF REVISIONS)
REGARDING FUEL RETENTION)
PERCENTAGE)

**ORDER APPROVING
TARIFF REVISIONS**

NG19-008

On August 23, 2019, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern). This filing proposes to update Sheet No. 6.2 in Section No. 5 of NorthWestern's natural gas tariff. NorthWestern's tariff provides that the Fuel Retention Percentage is to be updated annually and be effective October 1 each year. NorthWestern also proposes to update the fuel rate for customers with an average daily therm usage greater than 30,000. NorthWestern states that customers who fit this high usage criterion are primarily direct connect customers whose gas system is not subject to the normal losses in a distribution system. NorthWestern seeks an effective date of October 1, 2019.

On August 29, 2019, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of September 13, 2019, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed.

The revised tariff sheet is as follows:

South Dakota Gas Rate Schedule

Section No. 5

24th Revised Sheet No. 6.2

Cancelling 23rd Revised Sheet No 6.2

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A, particularly 49-34A-4, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-10, and 49-34A-25, and ARSD 20:10:13:02 through 20:10:13:28.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on September 17, 2019, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff recommended approval of the tariff revisions as filed on August 23, 2019, with an effective date of October 1, 2019. Finding the revisions to be just and reasonable, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the tariff revisions effective October 1, 2019. It is therefore

ORDERED, that NorthWestern's request to revise its aforementioned tariff is hereby granted and the revisions are approved, effective for services rendered on and after October 1, 2019.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 19th day of September 2019.

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. Croner</u>
Date: <u>9/19/19</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner