

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

**IN THE MATTER OF PIPELINE  
PENALTY WORKSHEET APPROVAL**

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**ORDER APPROVING  
PENALTY WORKSHEET**

**PS12-003**

On July 9, 2012, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from the Commission's Pipeline Safety Staff (Staff) requesting approval of a revised pipeline safety violation penalty worksheet submitted with the request. The worksheet was modified pursuant to a scheduled discussion that occurred among the Commission, Staff, and pipeline operators at the Commission's regular meeting on May 8, 2012, and subsequent operator input to Staff.

On July 12, 2012, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 20, 2012, to interested individuals and entities. No parties sought intervention. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34B-12.

On July 31, 2012, at a regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the request for approval of the revised pipeline safety violation penalty worksheet. Staff recommended approval. Finding that the revised penalty worksheet strikes a reasonable balance between increasing penalty levels for serious violations, denominated "egregious violations" in the revised worksheet, to accommodate and implement recent federal and state legislation, while maintaining penalty calculation options for routine, non-serious technical violations in the general range that the Commission has approved in numerous prior dockets, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the revised pipeline safety violation penalty worksheet. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that the revised pipeline safety violation penalty worksheet is hereby approved as submitted by Staff.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 1st day of August, 2012.

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| <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, electronically. |
| By: <u>Joy Beving</u>  |
| Date: <u>8-1-12</u>  |
| (OFFICIAL SEAL)  |

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner