



EXHIBIT A
REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT

COMES NOW, NorthWestern Corporation, doing business as NorthWestern Energy ("NorthWestern" or the "Company"), and pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:41, requests confidential treatment as follows:

- 1) The document for which confidential treatment is requested is Exhibit B, the work papers used in determining the costs of the Company's annual rates for purchased power.
- 2) The Company requests that such confidential treatment be afforded the work papers indefinitely;
- 3) The name, address and phone number of the persons to be contacted regarding the confidentiality request are:

Jeffrey Decker
Regulatory Analyst
NorthWestern Energy
600 Market Street West
Huron, SD 57350
(605) 353-8315

Pamela Bonrud
Director Government and Regulatory Affairs
NorthWestern Energy
3010 W. 69th Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57108
(605) 978-2900

- 4) The grounds for confidentiality are that the work papers provide proprietary information concerning the Company.
- 5) As a factual basis in support of this request, please see the response to item 4) above.