

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ONE-TIME SPECIAL) ORDER OPENING DOCKET
UNDERGROUND ASSESSMENT BY)
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY IN) EL99-019
SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA)

Sioux Falls ordinances require Northern States Power Company (NSP) to relocate overhead facilities in the downtown Sioux Falls area to underground whenever the adjacent streets are resurfaced. Certain streets in downtown Sioux Falls were resurfaced in 1999. The NSP Tariff provides that NSP will comply with lawful orders of a municipality and that NSP will charge the cost of the project to the benefitted customers. South Dakota Electric Rate Book, Section No. 6, Original Sheet No. 29, Section 5.5 (effective 12-16-96). NSP determined that the benefitted customers in this matter were NSP's Sioux Falls customers. NSP determined that the breakdown of the cost of this project to the individual customers will be approximately \$2.00/household and will be placed on the November 1999 bills.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A. On November 1, 1999, at a regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission voted to open a docket to determine the definition of "benefitted customer" in this matter. Commissioner Laska Schoenfelder dissented. It is therefore

ORDERED that a docket be opened to determine the definition of "benefitted customer" in this matter.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 16th day of November, 1999.

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><i>Helaine Kees</i></u>
Date: <u>11/16/99</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner,
dissenting