

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY)	ORDER APPROVING TARIFF
NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION DBA)	REVISIONS
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY FOR)	
APPROVAL OF TARIFF REVISIONS)	EL12-024

On March 27, 2013, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern) for approval to revise its Rate No. 73 – Small Qualifying Facility Rider (Occasional delivery energy service) and Rate No. 74 – Small Qualifying Facility Rider (Time of delivery energy service) tariff rates to reflect prices based on 2012 data. The update reflects the Company's 2012 avoided cost of fuel and purchased power. NorthWestern filed an updated application on June 18, 2013, to reflect a revised method of avoided costs calculation. The Company requested an effective date of August 1, 2013, for the proposed modifications to the rate schedules. The revised tariff sheets are as follows:

South Dakota Electric Rate Schedule

Section No. 3

11th Revised Sheet No. 30 Canceling 10th Revised Sheet No. 30
10th Revised Sheet No. 31 Canceling 9th Revised Sheet No. 31

On March 29, 2012, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of April 13, 2012, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No parties petitioned to intervene or submitted comments. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A, specifically 49-34A-4, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-9, 49-34A-10, and 49-34A-12; and ARSD 20:10:13:15.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on July 11, 2013, the Commission considered this matter. Commission Staff recommended approval. Finding the avoided cost rate revisions to be just and reasonable, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the revisions. It is therefore

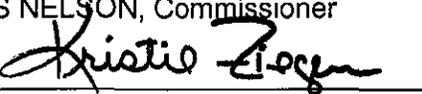
ORDERED, that NorthWestern's request to revise its Rate No. 73 – Small Qualifying Facility Rider (Occasional delivery energy service) and Rate No. 74 – Small Qualifying Facility Rider (Time of delivery energy service) tariff rates to reflect prices based on 2012 data, as described above, is hereby granted and the above-mentioned tariff revisions are approved with an effective date of August 1, 2013.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 16th day of July 2013.

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.
By: <u>Tim Doyle</u>
Date: <u>7-16-13</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


GARY HANSON, Chairman

CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner