



December 17, 2015

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
State Capitol Building
500 E. Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Pursuant to Section No. 3, Sheet No. 33.1 (5) of NorthWestern Energy's Electric Tariff, enclosed is 72nd Revised Sheet No. 33b.

Sheet Number 33b reflects changes in the delivered cost of fuel to be effective December 29, 2015 to coincide with the electric rate adjustment as approved in Docket EL14-106. This special fuel adjustment update reduces the purchased power costs due to NorthWestern Energy's acquisition of the Beethoven Wind Facility. This fuel clause adjustment was included in the Revised Settlement Stipulation agreement approved by the Commission in its order dated November 4, 2015 in Docket EL14-106. The annual purchased power reduction was estimated by NorthWestern to total \$8.3 million as a result of the Beethoven acquisition. This fuel adjustment update uses actual reductions for October and November 2015. The pro-rata share of the annual estimate of \$8.3 million reduces the remaining costs in the months of December 2015 through September 2016.

The effect of this adjustment for a typical Rate 10 residential service customer using 750 Kwh per month will be a decrease of \$4.03 on a monthly basis. The final electric rates approved in Docket EL14-106 will become effective on December 29, 2015. This coincides with the in-service date of the Big Stone AQCS project. With the new rates and current adjustment clause rates, the monthly cost for a typical Rate 10 residential customer, will be \$92.15.

Should you have any questions regarding the above changes, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Jeff J. Decker
Regulatory Specialist
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O 605-353-8315

SOUTH DAKOTA ELECTRIC RATE SCHEDULE

NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION d/b/a NORTHWESTERN ENERGY	Section No. 3
SIOUX FALLS	72nd Revised
SOUTH DAKOTA	Canceling 71st Revised
	Sheet No. 33b
	Sheet No. 33b

ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE RATES (cont'd)	Per KWH
	<u>Per Month</u>
<u>Ad Valorem Taxes Paid - Energy Charge</u>	
Rate No. 10 - Residential Service.....	\$0.00251
Rate No. 11 - Residential Service with Space Heating.....	\$0.00251
Rate No. 14 - Residential Space Heating and Cooling.....	\$0.00251
Rate No. 15 - Residential Dual Fuel and Controlled Services	\$0.00251
Rate No. 16 - Interruptible Irrigation Service	\$0.00273
Rate No. 17 - Irrigation Service.....	\$0.00273
Rate No. 18 - Off Peak Irrigation Service.....	\$0.00273
Rate No. 21 - General Service	\$0.00273
Rate No. 23 - Commercial Water Heating.....	\$0.00273
Rate No. 24 - Commercial Space Heating and Cooling	\$0.00273
Rate No. 25 - All-Inclusive Commercial Service.....	\$0.00273
Rate No. 41 - Municipal Pumping Service.....	\$0.00230
Rate No. 70 - Controlled Off Peak Service	\$0.00192
Rate No. 19 - Reddy-Guard, Rate No. 56 - Street and Area Lighting.....	\$0.00254

	Per KW
	<u>Per Month</u>
<u>Ad Valorem Taxes Paid - Demand Charge:</u>	
Rate No. 33 - Commercial and Industrial Service	\$0.59
Rate No. 34 - Large Commercial and Industrial Service	\$0.59

	Per KWH
	<u>Per Month</u>
<u>Delivered Cost of Fuel - All Energy Usage:</u>	
All Rate Schedules	\$0.01617

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Date Filed: December 17, 2015

Service on or after
Effective Date: December 29, 2015
Issued By: Jeff Decker, Specialist Regulatory