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January 13, 2012

via eFiling

Patricia Van Gerpen, Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
523 E. Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501

Re: *In the Matter of the Complaint by Oak Tree Energy LLC against NorthWestern Energy for refusing to enter into a Purchase Power Agreement - Docket EL11-006*

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Enclosed for filing please find the following:

- ◆ NorthWestern Energy's Witness and Exhibit List (Prefiled Direct and Rebuttal Testimony);
- ◆ Prefiled Direct and Rebuttal Testimony of Bleau LaFave, with exhibits;
- ◆ Prefiled Direct and Rebuttal Testimony of Richard J. Green, with exhibits;
- ◆ Prefiled Direct and Rebuttal Testimony of Dennis L. Wagner;
- ◆ Prefiled Direct and Rebuttal Testimony of Steven E. Lewis, with exhibits;
- ◆ Prefiled Direct and Rebuttal Testimony of Pamela A. Bonrud; and
- ◆ Certificate of Service.

By copy of this correspondence, the foregoing is being served upon persons identified in the Commission's service list, this being intended as service by electronic mail.

Request for Confidential Treatment

Pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:41, NorthWestern Energy requests confidential treatment of Exhibit SEL-10. In support of its request, NorthWestern Energy submits the following information:

- 1) An identification of the document and the general subject matter of the materials or the portions of the document for which confidentiality is being requested.

Exhibit SEL-10 is a page from a PowerPoint presentation prepared by Black & Veatch.

- 2) The length of time for which confidentiality is being requested and a request for handling at the end of that time.

NorthWestern Energy requests confidential treatment for the duration of this docket.

NorthWestern Energy requests that the exhibit be destroyed when this docket is closed.

- 3) The name, address, and phone number of a person to be contacted regarding the confidentiality request.

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- 4) The statutory or common law grounds and any administrative rules under which confidentiality is requested.

NorthWestern Energy requests confidential treatment under ARSD 20:10:01:39.

- 5) The factual basis that qualifies the information for confidentiality under the authority cited.

Exhibit SEL-10 is a page from a PowerPoint presentation prepared by Black & Veatch. The PowerPoint was produced to NorthWestern Energy as “Designated Materials” under the Confidentiality Agreement executed in this matter.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ *Sara Greff Dannen*

Sara Greff Dannen

Corporate Counsel

SGD/dq

Attachments

cc: Service List