



September 2, 2015

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen
Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
State Capitol Building
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Re: APPLICATION OF NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION
DBA NORTHWESTERN ENERGY FOR AUTHORITY TO
INCREASE IT ELECTRIC RATES
DOCKET NO. EL14-106

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

On December 19, 2014, NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy (“NorthWestern”) submitted its application to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission for authority to increase rates for electric service in South Dakota. The Commission issued its SCHEDULING ORDER (“Order”) in this matter on June 26, 2015.

NorthWestern proposes to suspend the procedural schedule set forth in the Order as follows:

Event	Order Deadline	Proposed Deadline
Staff and Intervenors’ testimony	September 14, 2015	September 28, 2015
All parties’ rebuttal testimony	October 5, 2015	October 19, 2015
All parties’ exhibit lists and witness lists	October 12, 2015	October 23, 2015
Evidentiary Hearing	October 27-30, 2015	Same

NorthWestern believes that this suspension will allow the parties, particularly NorthWestern and the intervenors, to continue settlement discussions without having to contend with testimony deadlines.

NorthWestern has discussed this proposal with Staff and Staff supports the proposal. NorthWestern has also contacted counsel for the intervenors, but has not received specific feedback from them. Should you have any questions regarding our request, please contact me at (406) 443-8903.

Sincerely,

AL BROGAN
CORPORATE COUNSEL