

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)	ORDER OF ASSESSMENT
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY FOR)	OF FILING FEE AND
AUTHORITY TO INCREASE RATES FOR)	SUSPENSION OF
NATURAL GAS SERVICE)	IMPOSITION OF TARIFF
)	NG01-010

On September 24, 2001, MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican), filed with the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) an application to increase natural gas rates in South Dakota. The application seeks an overall increase in rates in the approximate amount of \$3,697,000 or approximately 5.6%. The Company requested a change in rates to become effective for billings on and after October 27, 2001.

SDCL 49-1A-8 authorizes the Commission to require a deposit of up to one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission's (SDPUC) regulatory assessment fee fund to defray Commission expenses incident to analyzing and ruling upon this type of filing. The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-1A, 49-34A and ARSD 20:10:01:15.02 and 20:10:01:15.03.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of October 10, 2001, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission found that pursuant to SDCL 49-1A-8, MidAmerican shall be assessed a filing fee as requested by the executive director up to the statutory limit of \$100,000. Further, an intervention deadline of November 9, 2001, has been established. Pursuant to SDCL 49-31-14, the Commission suspended the operation of the schedule of rates proposed by MidAmerican for 90 days beyond October 26, 2001. It is therefore

ORDERED, that MidAmerican shall deposit a filing fee, to be established by the executive director, in the SDPUC regulatory assessment fee fund and shall deposit any additional amounts as requested by the executive director, not to exceed the statutory limit; and it is further

ORDERED, that the proposed schedule of rates shall be suspended for 90 days beyond October 26, 2001, pursuant to SDCL 49-34A-14.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 18th day of October, 2001.

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>Rebecca Kalbo</u>
Date:	<u>10/19/01</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner