

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF) ORDER FOR AND NOTICE
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY FOR) OF PROCEDURAL
AUTHORITY TO INCREASE RATES FOR) SCHEDULE AND HEARING
NATURAL GAS SERVICE) 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.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of October 10, 2001, 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. The Commission further established an intervention deadline of November 9, 2001. Pursuant to SDCL 49-34A-14, the Commission suspended the operation of the schedule of rates proposed by MidAmerican for 90 days beyond October 26, 2001. The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-34A, specifically 49-34A-4, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-10, 49-34A-11, 49-34A-12, 49-34A-13, 49-34A-13.1, 49-34A-17, 49-34A-19, 49-34A-21.

The procedural schedule for testimony shall be as follows:

DATE	PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE
January 23, 2002	Staff and Intervenors' Prefiled Testimony Due
February 6, 2002	Rebuttal Testimony Due

A hearing shall be held at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 20, 2002, and Thursday, February 21, 2002, in the Crown Room, Kings Inn, 220 South Pierre Street, Pierre, South Dakota. The hearing is open to the public. All persons testifying shall be subject to cross-examination.

The issue at the hearing is whether the Commission shall grant MidAmerican's request to implement revised natural gas rate schedules designed to produce additional revenues of \$3,697,000.

The hearing shall be an adversary proceeding conducted pursuant to SDCL Chapter 1-26. All parties have the right to be present and to be represented by an attorney. These rights and other due process rights shall be forfeited if not exercised at

the hearing. If you or your representative fail to appear at the time and place set for the hearing, the Final Decision will be based solely on the testimony and evidence provided, if any, during the hearing or a Final Decision may be issued by default pursuant to SDCL 1-26-20. After the hearing the Commission will consider all evidence and testimony that was presented at the hearing. The Commission will then enter Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and a Final Decision regarding this matter. As a result of this hearing, the Commission shall determine whether it shall grant MidAmerican's request to implement revised rate schedules. The Commission's Final Decision may be appealed by the parties to the state Circuit Court and the state Supreme Court as provided by law. It is therefore

ORDERED that the procedural schedule set forth above shall be followed by all parties to these proceedings. It is further

ORDERED that the hearing shall commence at 9:00 a.m., on Wednesday, February 20, 2002, in the Crown Room, Kings Inn, 220 South Pierre Street, Pierre, South Dakota, and if necessary, shall continue through Thursday, February 21, 2002.

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, this hearing is being held in a physically accessible location. Please contact the Public Utilities Commission at 1-800-332-1782 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing if you have special needs so arrangements can be made to accommodate you.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 17th day of December, 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: *William Kalbo*

Date: 12/17/01

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner