

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)	ORDER CANCELLING
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY FOR)	HEARING; ORDER FOR AND
AUTHORITY TO INCREASE RATES FOR)	NOTICE OF HEARING TO
NATURAL GAS SERVICE)	CONSIDER SETTLEMENT
)	AGREEMENT
)	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. On November 29, 2001, the state of South Dakota (State) filed a late petition for leave to intervene in this docket. By order dated December 20, 2001, the Commission granted intervention to the state of South Dakota. By order dated January 31, 2002, the Commission extended the suspension for 60 days or until the entry of the final order of the Commission, whichever occurs first.

The Commission set the matter for hearing for February 20-21, 2002, starting at 9:00 A.M., on February 20, 2002, in the Crown Room, Kings Inn, 220 South Pierre Street, Pierre, South Dakota. On February 4, 2002, the Commission received a letter from Commission Staff stating that MidAmerican and Commission Staff had reached a proposed settlement agreement. Staff requested that the Commission consider it on February 20, 2002.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-34A, including 1-26-18, 1-26-19, 49-34A-2, 49-34A-3, 49-34A-4, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-8.1, 49-34A-10, 49-34A-11, 49-34A-12, 49-34A-13, 49-34A-13.1, 49-34A-14, 49-34A-16, 49-34A-17, 49-34A-19, 49-34A-19.1, 49-34A-19.2, 49-34A-20, 49-34A-21, 49-34A-22, and 49-34A-23.

Based on Staff's letter, the Commission shall cancel the hearing set for February 20-21, 2002, which was scheduled to hear the testimony of the parties. Instead, the Commission shall hear from the parties concerning the proposed settlement agreement on February 20, 2002, at 2:30 P.M., in Room 468, State Capitol, 500 East Capitol, Pierre, South Dakota.

It is therefore

ORDERED, that the hearing scheduled for February 20-21, 2002, is cancelled; and
it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Commission shall hear from the parties concerning
the proposed settlement agreement on February 20, 2002, at 2:30 P.M., in Room 468,
State Capitol, 500 East Capitol, Pierre, South Dakota.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 7th day of February, 2002.

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><i>William Kelso</i></u>
Date: <u>2/7/02</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Robert K. Sahr
ROBERT K. SAHR, Commissioner