

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY) NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION D/B/A) NORTHWESTERN ENERGY FOR APPROVAL) OF A CONTRACT WITH DEVIATIONS WITH) FORDHAM COLONY)	ORDER APPROVING CONTRACT WITH DEVIATIONS NG06-010
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On September 13, 2006, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing by NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy (NWE) requesting approval of a contract with deviations with Fordham Colony to recover the cost of extending facilities to serve increased natural gas load at the Fordham Colony in Clark County, South Dakota. NWE filed the following tariff sheet for Commission approval:

Section No. 4, 11th Revised Sheet No. 1, Canceling 10th Revised Sheet No. 1

On October 19, 2006, at a regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the request for approval of the Contract with Deviations. Commission Staff recommended approval.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-8.3, 49-34A-10, and 49-34A-11. Further, the Commission finds that NWE's request for approval of a Contract with Deviations is just and reasonable and shall be approved for service rendered on and after October 20, 2006. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that the request seeking approval of a Contract with Deviations is in the public interest and is hereby granted; and it is further

ORDERED, that the above-mentioned tariff is approved and is effective for service rendered on and after October 20, 2006.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 31st day of October, 2006.

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>Aeldine Kalbo</i></u>
Date: <u>10/31/06</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Dustin Johnson
DUSTIN M. JOHNSON, Commissioner

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner