

Service Date: June 16, 2011

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

IN THE MATTER OF NorthWestern Energy's) REGULATORY DIVISION
Application for Approval of Electric Supply)
Deferred Cost Account Balance and Projected) DOCKET NO. D2011.5.38
Electric Supply Costs.)

NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND INTERVENTION DEADLINE

On June 2, 2011, NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern) filed its annual Electricity Supply Tracker filing, which includes its Application for Approval of: (1) Deferred Cost Account Balances for Electricity Supply Costs and Colstrip Unit 4 (CU4) Variable Costs/Credits; and (2) Projected Electricity Supply Cost Rates and CU4 Variable Rates (Application). The Montana Public Service Commission (Commission) has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Section 69-8-210(1) of the Montana Code Annotated.

In its Application, NorthWestern requests a change in electric supply rates to reflect: (1) Amortization of a net over-collection of (\$3,756,820) in the Electric Supply Deferred Cost Account for the 12 months ending June 30, 2011; and (2) projected load, supply, and related electric costs for the 12-month tracker period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.

NorthWestern also requests that the Commission grant an interim rate adjustment effective July 1, 2011. The Commission may act on NorthWestern's request for an interim rate adjustment prior to the deadline for filing a petition to intervene.

For a typical residential customer using 750 kWh per month, NorthWestern projects a 0.53% decrease in supply-related costs of \$0.24 per month or \$2.88 per year on the total bill. NorthWestern projects a 0.46% increase in overall costs of \$0.36 per month or \$4.32 per year due to increases in the Competitive Transition Charge for Qualifying Facilities and the Bonneville Power Administration Residential Exchange Credit.

A copy of the Application is available for inspection at the business offices of the PSC and may also be viewed on the PSC's website at <http://psc.mt.gov> under Docket D2011.5.38. The Montana Consumer Council (MCC), which represents consumer interests before the PSC

and can be reached at (406) 444-2771, also has a copy of the Application available for inspection at 616 Helena Avenue, Room 300, and P. O. Box 201703, Helena, MT 59620-1703.

Any interested person that is directly affected by the Application and wants to be a party to this docket must file a petition to intervene with the PSC **no later than July 5, 2011** (intervention deadline).

By the intervention deadline, a person petitioning for intervention must: (1) Submit the petition electronically (E-file) on the PSC's website at <http://psc.mt.gov> ("Account Login/Registration" under "Electronic Documents" tab); and (2) physically deliver or mail the original petition to the PSC at 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana 59620-2601. The PSC will not post an E-filed petition to its website until it receives the original from the petitioner. A person petitioning for intervention in this docket must also serve a hard copy of the petition on the MCC at the address above.

An interested person that does not wish to formally intervene in this docket may submit written public comments on the matter to the PSC at the above address, or through the PSC's web-based comment form at <http://psc.mt.gov> ("Comment on Proceedings").

The PSC issues orders and notices of proceedings through service lists. An interested person that does not intervene but wishes to receive orders and notices through the service list for this docket should notify the PSC in writing by the intervention deadline.

BY THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

TRAVIS KAVULLA, Chairman
GAIL GUTSCHE, Vice Chair
W. A. (BILL) GALLAGHER, Commissioner
BRAD MOLNAR, Commissioner
JOHN VINCENT, Commissioner