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

IN THE MATTER OF NorthWestern)	
Energy's Application for Approval to)	
Purchase and Operate PPL Montana's)	REGULATORY DIVISION
Hydroelectric Facilities, for Approval of)	
Inclusion of Generation Asset and Cost of)	
Service in Electricity Supply Rates, for)	DOCKET NO. D2013.12.85
Approval of Issuance of Securities to)	
Complete the Purchase, and for Related)	
Relief)	

**NORTHWESTERN ENERGY'S OBJECTIONS TO
DATA REQUESTS PSC-130**

NorthWestern Corporation doing business as NorthWestern Energy (“NorthWestern”), objects to the data request identified as PSC-130 on the grounds more particularly described below. The Montana Public Service Commission (“Commission”) served its ninth set of data requests (PSC-130) (“PSC Set 9”) on February 20, 2014. Procedural Order 7323b, ¶ 9, provides a party may object to a data request within 10 days from service. March 2, 2014 is 10 days from service of PSC Set 9. As March 2, 2014, fell on a Sunday, the deadline to object to data requests in PSC Set 9 is Monday, March 3, 2014.

PSC-130

PSC-130 asks as follows:

Please provide the documents identified in the attached list, “PPL Data Room Documents Requested.” (If certain documents listed in the database have already been provided by NorthWestern in testimony, exhibits, or data responses, please include in your response the location where those documents may be found.)

(Attached: “PPL Data Room Documents Requested”)

NorthWestern objects to Data Request PSC-130 to the extent that it: is overly broad and unreasonably vague, seeks information that is irrelevant, outside the reasonable scope of this proceeding, and not calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence; imposes on NorthWestern undue expense or unreasonable burden; seeks information or documents relating to entities other than NorthWestern, including but not limited to the PPL Montana (“PPLM”) and its affiliates; purports to call for information or documents not presently in the possession of NorthWestern, but in the possession of third parties or separate legal entities; and requires public disclosure of information that is confidential or commercially sensitive trade secret information of PPLM and its affiliates. More specifically, at the request of NorthWestern, PPLM has been reviewing the requested documents and as to each document that is marked “Mixed” in the numbered index of the data room provided, and NorthWestern, working with PPLM, believes

that the information requested as to the fossil units of PPLM is irrelevant as it is not information relevant to the acquisition of hydro assets by NorthWestern. In addition, data room documents numbered 11.3.1.1, 11.3.1.2, 11.3.2.3, 11.3.3.2, 11.3.3.4, and 16.11.3.3.2 are extremely large contracts that it would be burdensome for NorthWestern to produce, especially given the very limited, if any, relevance of these contracts to this proceeding.

Respectfully submitted this 3rd day of March 2014.



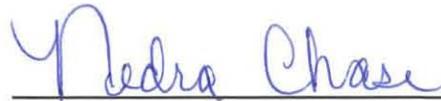
Al Brogan
Sarah Norcott
Heather H. Grahame

Attorneys for NorthWestern Energy

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of NorthWestern Energy's Objection to Data Request PSC-130 in PSC Set 9 in Docket No. D2013.12.85 has been hand delivered to The Montana Public Service Commission and The Montana Consumer Counsel. A copy has been e-filed on the MPSC website. This will be mailed to the most recent service list in this Docket by first class mail. This will also be emailed to the counsel of record.

Date: March 3, 2014



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Docket No D2013.12.85
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