

September 11, 2015

Ms. Kate Whitney
Utility Division
Montana Public Service Commission
1701 Prospect Avenue
PO Box 2022601
Helena, Montana 59620-2601

**Re: Docket Nos. D2013.5.33/D2014.5.46 Electric Tracker
Updated Response to PSC-043
PSC Set 6 Data Requests (041-049)**

Dear Ms. Whitney:

Enclosed for filing is a copy of NorthWestern Energy's updated response to PSC-043 in Set 6 Data Requests in Docket Nos. D2013.5.33/D2014.5.46. It has been hand delivered to the Montana Public Service Commission and the Montana Consumer Counsel this date. It has been mailed to the service list in this docket, e-filed on the PSC website, and emailed to counsel of record.

Should you have questions please contact Joe Schwartzenberger at (406) 497-3362.

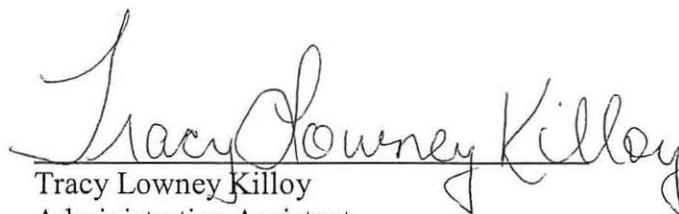
Sincerely,

Tracy Lowney Killoy
Administrative Assistant

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of NorthWestern Energy's updated response to PSC-043 in PSC Set 6 Data Requests (041-049) in Docket Nos. D2013.5.33/D2014.5.46 has been hand delivered to the Montana Public Service Commission and to the Montana Consumer Counsel this date. It has been e-filed on the PSC website, emailed to counsel of record, and served on the most recent service list by mailing a copy thereof by first class mail, postage prepaid.

Date: September 11, 2015


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Administrative Assistant
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D2013.5.33/D2014.5.46
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NorthWestern Energy
Docket D2013.5.33/D2014.5.46
Electric Tracker

Montana Public Service Commission
Set 6 (041-049)

Data Requests received June 24, 2015

PSC-043

Regarding: DGGGS Variable Costs
Witness: Bennett

- a. Please explain the source and nature of the May 2014 “MPSC-Related Fuel Adjustment” that appears on line 56, page 2 of Exhibit_(FVB-6)13-14 in Docket D2014.5.46.
- b. Please explain why the calculation of DGGGS “Energy Supply Cost” and “Revenue Credits” appears to change (resulting in a lower credit) after March and April 2014. *See e.g. lines 51 & 70 on page 2 of Exhibit_(FVB-6)13-14 Updated, Dkt. D2014.5.46.*

RESPONSE:

- a. Pages FVB-2 and FVB-3 of the Prefiled Direct Testimony of Frank V. Bennett (Annual DGGGS True-up section in Docket No. D2014.5.46) explain the correcting entry to adjust fuel costs to actual market prices approved under Final Order No. 7219h, Docket No. D2012.5.49. The entry was booked in May 2014.
- b. The calculation of Energy Supply Cost and Revenue Credits changes after March and April 2014 because that is when NorthWestern corrected its calculation to reflect actual market prices. See also the response to part a, above.

UPDATED RESPONSE (September 11, 2015):

- b. The original response to part b is correct for Line 51 – Energy Supply Cost (7 MW); see additional explanation in the response to Data Request PSC-072.

As for the Revenue Credits (27 MW Supply/Tran) on Line 70, these have always been based on actual market prices; however, they change due to changes in market prices and volumes. The average Mid-C price minus \$7 was \$48.47 in February 2014, dropped to \$13.65 in March 2014, and dropped further in April 2014 to \$8.17.