

Service Date: June 16, 2014

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 Unreflected Gas)
Cost Account Balance and Projected Gas Cost,) DOCKET NO. D2013.5.34
and Gas Transportation Adjustment Clause)
Balance)

IN THE MATTER OF NorthWestern Energy's) REGULATORY DIVISION
Application for Approval of Unreflected Gas)
Cost Account Balance and Projected Gas Cost) DOCKET NO. D2014.5.47
and Gas Transportation Adjustment Clause)
Balance)

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
AND INTERVENTION DEADLINE

On May 29, 2014, NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy (NWE) submitted its annual Natural Gas Cost Tracker filing. NWE is requesting the following specific changes:

- (a) Reflect rate treatment for the deferred balance in the Unreflected Gas Cost Account ("UGCA") for the 12-month period ending June 30, 2014;
- (b) Reflect rate treatment for amortization of the Gas Transportation Adjustment Clause ("GTAC") Balance as of April 30, 2014;
- (c) Extinguish the unit amortizations in the current rate schedules, approved in Interim Order No. 7282 from Docket No. D2013.5.47; and
- (d) Reflect the projected load, supply, and related natural gas costs for the 12-month tracker period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

NWE also requests approval to continue to collect the cost of its interest in Bear Paw (Bear Paw) and Devon natural gas fields on an interim basis in this Docket until such time that a revenue requirement filing is processed by the Commission.

The projected natural gas supply rate for the 12-month period starting July 1, 2014 is \$0.49645 per therm, compared with the rate for the 12-month period starting July 1, 2013 of \$0.425044 per therm, which is a total increase of \$0.071406 per therm.

On June 10, 2014, the Commission approved NWE's request to combine D2013.5.34 with D2014.5.47.

A copy of NWE's filing is available for inspection at the business offices of NWE, 40 East Broadway Street, Butte, Montana 59701, the PSC, and the Montana Consumer Counsel (MCC). The MCC, 111 North Last Chance Gulch, Suite 1B, P.O. Box 201703, Helena, Montana 59620-1703, telephone (406) 444-2771, is available and may be contacted to assist and represent the interests of the consuming public in this matter.

Any interested person who is directly affected by NWE's filing before the PSC and who wants to be a party to the docket must file a Petition to Intervene with the PSC, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana 59620-2601, **no later than July 30, 2014**. The parties to the 2013 tracker are parties to the 2014 tracker by virtue of consolidation. Any Petition to Intervene must be electronically submitted (e-filed) on the PSC's website at <http://psc.mt.gov> ("Account Login/Registration" under "Electronic Documents" tab). The filing party must also deliver or mail the original Petition to Intervene in paper format to the PSC by the filing deadline. The PSC will upload e-filed documents to the PSC's website after the paper original has been officially received at the PSC office. One copy must be served on NWE and the MCC (addresses above).

Any interested person who does not prefer to formally participate in the matter as an intervenor may submit written public comments on the matter to the PSC at the above address. Public comments may also be submitted to the PSC through the PSC's web-based comment form at <http://psc.mt.gov> (go to "Contact Us," "Comment on Proceedings Online," then complete the form and submit). The PSC will consider all public comments regarding the application, written or electronic, received before it issues a final order in this matter.

The PSC's jurisdiction over this matter is provided at Title 69, MCA. The substantive and procedural law applicable is Title 69, MCA, especially Chapter 3, ARM Title 38, Ch. 5 (utilities), Title 2, Ch. 4, MCA (MAPA), ARM Title 38, Ch. 2 (PSC procedural rules), and any relevant prior orders of the PSC.

BY THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

W. A. (BILL) GALLAGHER, Chairman

BOB LAKE, Vice Chairman

KIRK BUSHMAN, Commissioner

TRAVIS KAVULLA, Commissioner

ROGER KOOPMAN, Commissioner