

SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of NorthWestern)	Application No. NG-122
Energy Public Service)	
Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern)	
Energy, Sioux Falls, South)	ORDER CERTIFYING CASE FOR
Dakota, seeking approval of a)	NEGOTIATIONS
natural gas general rate)	
increase for Nebraska.)	
)	Entered: August 6, 2024

BY THE COMMISSION:

On June 6, 2024, NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy ("NorthWestern") of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, filed an application with the Nebraska Public Service Commission ("Commission") seeking approval of a natural gas general rate increase in Nebraska. The application seeks to increase rates to customers located in North Platte, Kearney, Grand Island, and Alda.

In accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 66-1838, Northwestern sought to negotiate the rate increase directly with the above-mentioned municipalities. On July 9, 2024, the Alda Village Board voted in favor of negotiations. On July 16, 2024, the North Platte City Council voted in favor of negotiations. On July 23, 2024, both the Kearney and Grand Island City Councils voted in favor of negotiations. A copy of each of these resolutions has been provided to the Commission. The ratepayers of Alda, North Platte, Kearney, and Grand Island represent the entirety of NorthWestern's ratepayers within the state of Nebraska.

O P I N I O N A N D F I N D I N G

Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §66-1838(6), "If the commission receives resolutions adopted prior to the expiration of the sixty-day period provided for in subsection (4) of this section evidencing the intent to negotiate from cities representing more than fifty percent of the ratepayers within the affected cities, the commission shall certify the case for negotiation between such cities and the jurisdictional utility..."

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The Commission received resolutions evidencing intent to negotiate from cities representing more than 50 percent of the ratepayers within the affected cities on the dates listed above.

Therefore, the Commission finds Northwestern's application for a rate increase should be certified for negotiations. The Commission will take no action upon the rate filing until the negotiation period and any stipulated extension has expired or an agreement on rates is submitted.¹ The Commission further finds upon receipt of this certification, the jurisdictional utility and the cities adopting resolutions to negotiate shall enter into good faith negotiations over such proposed rate change.²

O R D E R

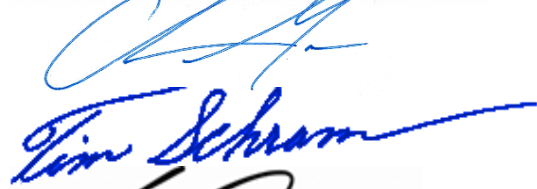
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission in the above-captioned docket that this matter is certified for negotiations.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 6th day of August, 2024.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:









Chair

ATTEST:


Executive Director

¹ Neb. Rev. Stat. §66-1838(6).

² Neb. Rev. Stat. § 66-1838(9).