

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of NorthWestern Energy) Application No. NG-122
Public Service Corporation d/b/a)
NorthWestern Energy, Seeking Approval of) SUBMISSION OF NORTH PLATTE
a Natural Gas Rate Increase.) RESOLUTION
)
)

Pursuant to NEB. REV. STAT. § 66-1838(4), a copy of Resolution by the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Platte (“City”), dated July 16, 2024, memorializing the City’s decision to negotiate directly with NorthWestern Energy (“NorthWestern”) with respect to the above-captioned general rate proceeding, is hereby submitted to the Public Service Commission. A copy of said Resolution is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

DATED: July 22, 2024

NORTHWESTERN ENERGY PUBLIC
SERVICE CORPORATION D/B/A
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY

By: REMBOLT LUDTKE LLP
3 Landmark Centre
1128 Lincoln Mall, Suite 300
Lincoln, NE 68508
(402) 475-5100

By: /s/ Andrew S. Pollock
Andrew S. Pollock (#19872)
apollock@remboltlawfirm.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that an original of the above Submission of North Platte Resolution was filed with the Public Service Commission on July 22, 2024, and a copy was served via electronic mail, on the following:

Public Service Commission
psc.naturalgas@nebraska.gov

Nichole Mulcahy
Public Service Commission
nichole.mulcahy@nebraska.gov

Chris Dibbern
Chrisdibbern33@gmail.com

Don Krattenmaker
WoodRiver Energy
don.krattenmaker@woodriverenergy.com

Staci Urbom
WoodRiver Energy
Stacci.urbom@woodriverenergy.com

Alex Goldberg
Eversheds Sutherland (US) LLP
alexgoldberg@eversheds-sutherland.com

Jonathan R. Brandt
Anderson, Klein, Brewster and Brandt
jonbrandt@kleinbrewster.com

Jared Krejci
Smith, Johnson, Allen, Connick & Hansen
jkrejci@gilawfirm.com

Kari Fisk
City of Grand Island
City Attorney
karif@grand-island.com

William Troshynski
Brouillette Law Office
bill@wneblaw.com

Michael J. Tye
Tye & Rowling, PC. LLO
mjt@tyelaw.com

/s/ Andrew S. Pollock
Andrew S. Pollock

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on June 6, 2024, NorthWestern Energy Group, Inc., doing business as NorthWestern Energy (“NorthWestern”), filed an Application for Natural Gas Rate Increase (“Application”) with the Nebraska Public Service Commission (“PSC”) seeking to increase natural gas rates; and

WHEREAS, NorthWestern provided notice of its Application to each Nebraska customer as a bill insert for the June 2024 billing cycle; and

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute §66-13838 authorizes jurisdictional utilities such as NorthWestern to negotiate directly with affected municipalities impacted by proposed rate increases provided that municipalities representing more than fifty percent (50%) of the rate payers within the affected municipalities adopt resolutions evidencing their intent to negotiate with the jurisdictional utility within 60 days of the rate application; and

WHEREAS, the details of NorthWestern’s application are available under Public Service Commission case NG-122 and generally include a request that rates be increased by 7.44% for residential customers and 3.66% for commercial accounts; and

WHEREAS, NorthWestern’s application indicates an intent to implement interim rate recovery pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statutes §66-1838(10)(b) after October 1, 2024, depending on the status of direct negotiations with the Cities; and

WHEREAS, the impacted municipalities are the City of Grand Island (representing 47.4% of affected customers), the City of Kearney (representing 26.4% of affected customers), the City of North Platte (representing 25.5% of affected customers), and the Village of Alda (representing less than 1% of affected customers); and

WHEREAS, NorthWestern had indicated a desire to negotiate directly with the impacted municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the Cities of Grand Island, Kearney and North Platte also desire to negotiate directly with NorthWestern as permitted by law; and

WHEREAS, municipalities participating in direct negotiations may apply for a loan from the Nebraska Municipal Rate Negotiations Revolving Loan Fund (“Fund”) as set forth in Nebraska Revised Statute §66-1839; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned municipalities desire to work cooperatively with each other in negotiating with NorthWestern and in making a joint application for a loan from the Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH PLATTE, NEBRASKA, as follows:

1. That the City of North Platte demonstrates its desire to negotiate directly with NorthWestern with respect to the Application as permitted by law;
2. The City Attorney and other City staff are directed to work cooperatively with other affected municipalities in commencing direct negotiations, so long as at least two of the three impacted Cities adopt resolutions demonstrating an intent to negotiate directly with NorthWestern;
3. The City Attorney is directed to pursue an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the other affected municipalities to permit coordinated direct negotiations, the retention of an independent consultant, and application to the Fund; and
4. A copy of this resolution is to be provided to the PSC and NorthWestern within seven (7) days after its adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 16th DAY OF JULY, 2024.

CITY OF NORTH PLATTE, NEBRASKA



Brandon Kelliher, Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk

(SEAL)