

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 KEARNEY
a Natural Gas Rate Increase.) RESOLUTION
)
)

Pursuant to NEB. REV. STAT. § 66-1838(4), a copy of Resolution by the City Council of the City of Kearney (“City”), dated July 23, 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 25, 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 Kearney Resolution was filed with the Public Service Commission on July 25, 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

EXHIBIT A

RESOLUTION 2024-95

WHEREAS, on June 6, 2024, NorthWestern Energy Group, Inc., d/b/a 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, Neb. Rev. Stat. §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 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 Neb. Rev. Stat. §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, North Platte, and the Village of Alda also desire to negotiate directly with NorthWestern as permitted by law; and

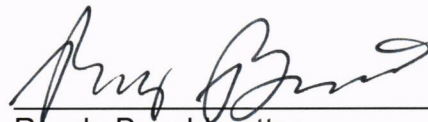
WHEREAS, municipalities participating in direct negotiations may apply for a loan from the Nebraska Municipal Rate Negotiations Revolving Loan Fund ("Fund") as set forth in Neb. Rev. Stat. §66-1839; and

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 Vice-President and Council of the City of Kearney, Nebraska, that:

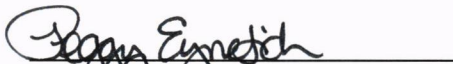
1. That the City of Kearney demonstrates its desire to negotiate directly with NorthWestern with respect to the Application as permitted by law.
2. The City Attorney and other City staff are directed to work cooperatively with other affected municipalities in commencing direct negotiations, so long as 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.
4. A copy of this resolution is to be provided to the PSC and NorthWestern within seven days after its adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 23RD DAY OF JULY, 2024.



Randy Buschkoetter,
Vice-President of the Council

ATTEST:


Peggy Eynetich, City Clerk