

Service Date: May 13, 2016

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

IN THE MATTER OF NorthWestern) REGULATORY DIVISION
Energy's Application for Approval of)
Avoided Cost Tariff Schedule QF-1) DOCKET NO. D2016.5.39

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION
AND INTERVENTION DEADLINE**

On May 3, 2016, NorthWestern Corporation, doing business as NorthWestern Energy (“NWE”) filed an *Application for Approval of Avoided Cost Tariff Schedule QF-1* (“Application”) with the Montana Public Service Commission (“PSC”). NWE requests that the PSC approve NWE’s new QF-1 tariff on both an interim and final basis. The proposed avoided cost rates would apply to Qualifying Facilities (“QF”) with a nameplate capacity of three megawatts or less on May 3, 2016. “Standard rates” for purchases from QFs are based on NWE’s “avoided costs,” computed annually, reviewed by the PSC, made available to the public, and “applicable to all contracts with qualifying facilities which do not choose to negotiate a different rate.” Mont. Admin. R. 38.5.1901(2)(j) (2016). In its Application, NorthWestern proposes to decrease standard rates.

A copy of the filing is available for inspection at the PSC’s business offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana 59620-2601; and the Montana Consumer Counsel (“MCC”), 111 North Last Chance Gulch Suite 1B, P.O. Box 201703, Helena, Montana 59620-1703, telephone (406) 444-2771. The MCC is available to 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 **no later than June 10, 2016**. By the intervention deadline, a person petitioning for intervention must:

- (1) Submit the petition electronically (e-file) on the PSC's website at <http://psc.mt.gov> (“Account Login/Registration” under “Electronic Documents” tab); and
- (2) physically deliver or mail the

original petition to the PSC at the address above. The PSC will not post an e-filed document to its website until it receives the original from the petitioner. A person petitioning for intervention in this Docket must also serve a hard copy of the petition on the MCC and NWE, 208 N. Montana, Suite. 205, Helena, Montana 59601.

An interested person that does not wish to formally intervene in this Docket may submit written public comments on the matter to the Commission at the above address, or through its web-based comment form at <http://psc.mt.gov> (“Comment on Proceedings”). The PSC has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Title 69 of the Montana Code Annotated

BY THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BRAD JOHNSON, Chairman
TRAVIS KAVULLA, Vice Chairman
KIRK BUSHMAN, Commissioner
ROGER KOOPMAN, Commissioner
BOB LAKE, Commissioner