



December 15, 2017

Mr. Will Rosquist  
Administrator, Regulatory Division  
Montana Public Service Commission  
1701 Prospect Ave.  
P. O. Box 202601  
Helena MT 59620-2601

RE: Docket No. D2017.5.39 – Power Costs and Credits Adjustment Mechanism Proposal  
NorthWestern Energy's First Set of Data Requests to the Montana Consumer Counsel  
(001-005)

Dear Mr. Rosquist:

Enclosed for filing is NorthWestern Energy's first set of data requests to Montana Consumer Counsel (NWE-001-005).

These data requests will be hand delivered this day to the PSC and the MCC, e-filed with the PSC, emailed to counsel of record, and mailed to the remainder of the service list.

If you have any questions, please call Joe Schwartzenberger at (406) 497-3362.

Sincerely,

Tracy Lowney Killoy  
Administrative Assistant

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

IN THE MATTER OF the Montana Public Service Commission's Review of Rates to Recover NorthWestern Energy's Electricity Supply Costs	) ) ) )	REGULATORY DIVISION  DOCKET NO. D2017.5.39
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**NORTHWESTERN ENERGY'S FIRST SET  
OF DATA REQUESTS TO THE MONTANA CONSUMER COUNSEL**

(NWE-001 to NWE-005)

NWE-001     RE:     Electronic Files  
                   Witness: Donkin

Please provide electronic, Excel-readable files of all figures, tables, calculations, and ancillary information included in your testimony and exhibits or that you relied on in formulating your opinions or exhibits, with all formulas intact and calculations traceable.

NWE-002     RE:     Previous Testimony Regarding Adjustment Mechanisms  
                   Witness: Donkin

For each time you have testified before a state regulatory body (e.g. state public service or utilities commission) on the subject of tracking fuel expenses, tracking purchased power expenses, or similar tracking or adjustment mechanisms, provide the following:

- a.     A complete docket identifier which provides the name of the forum, the name and docket number of the proceeding, the party on whose behalf you testified, and the date.
- b.     A complete and accurate copy of your prefiled testimony in the docket.

NWE-003     RE:     Support for Tracking Mechanisms  
                   Witness: Donkin

On page 8 of your testimony, you state that you "consider a component of electricity supply costs or credits to be large if it represents more than 5% of the utility's net earnings." Please provide the basis for this 5% of net earnings standard.

NWE-004 RE: Size of Supply Costs- Calculation  
Witness: Donkin

- a. List the six NorthWestern PCCAM cost and credit components that you reference on page 8 of your testimony as having costs greater than 5% of 2016 net earnings.
- b. Show your calculation for the six components that results in this 5% or greater result.
- c. List the 15 NorthWestern PCCAM cost and credit components that you reference on page 8 of your testimony as having costs less than 5% of 2016 net earnings.
- d. Show your calculation for the 15 components that results in this 5% or less result.

NWE-005 RE: Transition Period Tracking  
Witness: Donkin

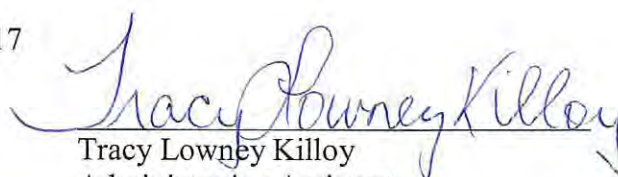
You state on page 23 of your testimony that “NorthWestern’s existing electricity supply cost tracker should be retained until its elimination is implemented in the Company’s next general rate case.” Your “alternative” recommendation, discussed on page 24 of your testimony, is that the Commission exclude from tracking lines 1-9 of Exhibit\_\_\_(GLD-2). For your “alternative” recommendation, do you recommend that NorthWestern’s existing electricity supply cost tracker should be retained until NorthWestern’s next general rate case when the expenses in lines 1-9 of Exhibit\_\_\_(GLD-2) are removed from the tracker and included in fixed cost rates?



**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of NorthWestern Energy's First Set of Data Requests to the Montana Consumer Counsel (NWE-001-005) in Docket No. D2017.5.39 has been hand delivered to the Montana Public Service Commission and the Montana Consumer Counsel this date. It has also been e-filed with the Montana Public Service Commission, emailed to counsel of record, and served upon the remainder of the service list by postage prepaid via first class mail as follows:

Date: December 15, 2017



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