

NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
December 30, 2004

**Great Plains Natural Gas Co.  
December 2004  
Cost of Gas Adjustment**

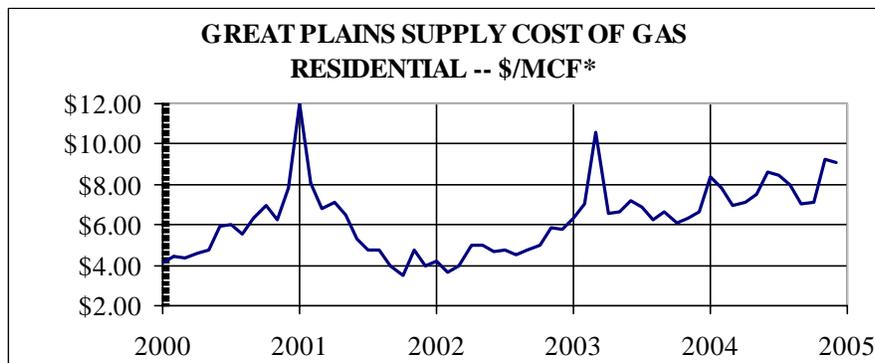
**PU-04-639  
Filed 12/06/2004**

Great Plains is decreasing its cost of gas adjustment to residential customers by \$0.1978 per dekatherm (dk) compared to last month. This gas adjustment will be applied to natural gas used on or after December 1, 2004.

This cost of gas adjustment on the bill will change from \$4.0669 per dk to \$3.8691 per dk.

For residential consumption of 18.8 dk (typical of December), the cost of gas in the bill will be approximately \$3.72 lower than last month and \$45.52 higher than December 2003.

The total supply-cost of gas for November usage is \$9.0540 per dk.



The supply-cost of gas change is due to:

- \$0.2528 per dk decrease in the commodity-cost of gas.
- \$0.0550 per dk increase in pipeline charges.

For Great Plains, the Cost of Gas for the month is determined on the last day of the preceding month. The Cost of Gas is based on the average of the preceding month's AECO Index futures for the month that the Cost of Gas adjustment will be effective. For example, December's Cost of Gas is determined on the last day of November and is the average of November's AECO Index futures for December gas.

The Department of Energy's (DOE) Energy Information Administration's (EIA) Natural Gas Weekly Update stated that, for the week of November 2-9, natural gas prices declined due to temporary warming of temperatures. The Natural Gas Weekly Update for the week of November 24-December 1 stated that, although temperatures remained moderate, December's arrival brought some of the coldest temperatures of the current winter. This contributed to widespread price increases in spot markets across the Lower 48 States.

The Department of Energy's (DOE) Energy Information Administration (EIA) provides various publications on energy issues. The information is available on the EIA website: <http://www.eia.doe.gov>.

There were 2,039 Great Plains customers in North Dakota as of December 31, 2003.

**MOTION**

**December 30, 2004**

**Great Plains Natural Gas Co.  
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**Case No. PU-04-639**

I move the Commission approve Great Plains Natural Gas Co.'s Cost of Gas adjustment for December 2004, Case No. PU-04-639.

PJF/sdh