

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
BEFORE THE
NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Application of)	Docket No. PU-20-441
Northern States Power Company for)	
Authority to Increase Rates for)	PETITION TO INTERVENE
Electric Service in North Dakota)	BY WALMART INC.
)	

Walmart Inc.¹ (“Walmart”), by and through its undersigned counsel and pursuant to North Dakota Administrative Code (“N.D. Admin. Code”) 69-02-02-05, hereby petitions the North Dakota Public Services Commission (“Commission”) for intervention in the above captioned proceeding filed by Northern States Power Company (“Company”). In support thereof, Walmart states as follows:

1. N.D. Admin. Code 69-02-02-05 provides that a petition to intervene “must be in writing and must set forth the grounds for intervention, the position and interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, what the petitioner would contribute to the hearing, and whether the petitioner’s position is in support of or in opposition to the relief sought.”

2. On November 6, 2020, the Company filed a Notice of Change in Rates for Electric Service and an Alternative Petition for Interim Rates, together with proposed Tariff Sheets and witness testimony in which it is proposing, among other things, to increase electric base rates and make other changes in its charges for electric services provided to its North Dakota customers.

3. Walmart is a large retailer with 4 stores and related facilities within the service territory of the Company. These facilities include Walmart Supercenters, Sam’s Clubs and gas stations. Walmart’s corporate headquarters is located at 702 SW 8th Street, Bentonville, Arkansas 72716.

¹ Walmart Inc. was formerly known as Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. and Sam’s West, Inc.

4. Walmart is a commercial customer of the Company with a significant percentage of its electrical capacity and energy needed to power its facilities within the Company's service territory purchased from the Company. As a large energy user, the Company's requested relief will likely have a significant impact on Walmart's energy costs. Because energy cost is a large part of Walmart's operating costs, this proceeding will have a direct impact on Walmart's operations in North Dakota and substantially affect the pecuniary and tangible interests of Walmart.

5. Walmart's interests are not adequately represented by any other party to this proceeding because of Walmart's unique status as a large retail electric customer.

6. Walmart may present evidence through direct testimony, as well as cross-examination, on issues arising in this proceeding, including, but not limited to, the following issues: (a) appropriate rate of return and the cost of equity; (b) appropriate expenses that should be recovered by ratepayers; and (c) appropriate adjustments to costs of service studies and rate design issues, if any. However, the exact nature and quantity of any evidence to be presented by Walmart in this proceeding is not yet known. Walmart reserves the right to participate in this proceeding as its interest continues to develop throughout the course of the proceeding.

7. Walmart's intervention is timely.

8. Walmart's intervention will not unduly broaden the issues or delay the proceedings, nor will its intervention prejudice any parties.

9. The nature and quantity of any evidence to be presented by Walmart in this proceeding is not yet known. Walmart reserves the right to participate in this proceeding as its interest continues to develop throughout the course of the proceeding.

10. A copy of this Petition to Intervene has been served upon the parties to this proceeding as provided in the attached Certificate of Service. Copies of all notices, orders, or pleadings in this proceeding should be served upon:

Julie A. Clark
Clark Energy Law, LLC
3440 Youngfield Street, Suite 276
Wheat Ridge, CO 80033
Direct Dial: (303) 731-6106
jclark@clarkenergylaw.com

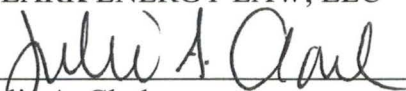
Steve W. Chriss
Director, Energy Services
Walmart Inc.
2608 SE J Street
Bentonville, AR 72716
Telephone: (479) 268-0081
stephen.chriss@walmart.com

WHEREFORE, Walmart submits this timely Petition to Intervene and respectfully requests that the Commission grant its Petition and allow it to participate with full rights as a party in this proceeding.

DATED this the 25th day of January, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

CLARK ENERGY LAW, LLC



Julie A. Clark

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ATTORNEYS FOR WALMART INC.

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
BEFORE THE
NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Application of)
Northern States Power Company for)
Authority to Increase Rates for) **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**
Electric Service in North Dakota)
)

Docket No. PU-20-441

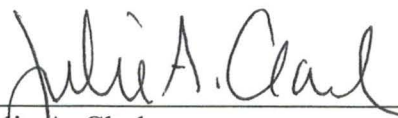
Julie A. Clark certifies that on the 25th day of January, 2021, she served a true and correct copy of the attached **PETITION TO INTERVENE** by email and placing it in the United States Mail with postage prepaid, addressed to the following individuals:

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Julie A. Clark

Subscribed to and sworn before me on this 25th day of January, 2021.

TRACY HOWARD
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF COLORADO
NOTARY ID 20184007604
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 02/15/2022



Notary Public

[SEAL]
My Commission Expires: 2/15/22