

Memorandum

To: Commissioners Christmann, Fedorchak and Haugen-Hoffart

From: Victor Schock Public Utility Analyst 

Date: March 21, 2022

Re: Dakota Natural Gas, LLC
Miscellaneous Tariff Revisions
Tariff
Case No. PU-22-83

On February 18, 2022, Dakota Natural Gas, LLC (DNG) filed an application for revisions to its Contact Information, Technical Terms and Abbreviations, General Firm Service Rate SCS1 and CS1 and General Rules and Regulations tariff to update contact information, min/max customer usage for Rates SCS1 and CS1 and to reduce the number of feet of service line that may be installed for a new customer with no contribution requirement from the new customer. The tariff revisions would have no rate impact to any North Dakota customers.

The proposed revisions are as follows:

1. Revision 1 updates the Gas rate book cover page and contact information to reflect the new President of DNG Cody Chilson. This is an administrative change that has no impact on any rates.
2. Within the Technical terms and abbreviations section is currently a reference to the communities served by DNG in North Dakota. This community reference is currently in multiple locations within the tariff. The change simply references one location so that future community additions or changes do not require multiple tariff page updates. This is an administrative change that has no impact on any rates.
3. The next revision to rate SCS1 and CS1 would change the General Firm Service rate SCS1 to be available for customers who use up to 4,999 Ccfs or therms annually. The present limit is 1,999. Customers using more than this amount would be required to move to rate CS1 which has a fixed monthly fee of \$100 versus the \$16 fee for SCS1. The change is being requested in order to match the meter sizes in use by DNG. All meters used for the SCS1 rate are able to supply up to 4,999 Ccfs annually. With that in mind, DNG believes it is appropriate to set the upper limit of the SCS1 rate class to match. Were it not for this change at least 23 small commercial customers would be required to move from rate schedule SCS1 to CS1.
4. The final tariff revision reduces the number of feet of service line that may be installed to serve a new customer without the need for a financial contribution from the new customer. The current allowance is 250 feet, and DNG has requested to reduce the allowance to 125 feet. DNG cited increases in cost to install the service lines as the primary reason for the request. DNG additionally noted that nearly all of the service lines they will install in the near future will be less than 125 feet.

Staff believes the proposed tariff changes are reasonable and prudent, and recommends approval.

c. Kristine Anderson