

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**Northern States Power Company
Service Reconnection Charge & Manual Meter Reading
Tariff and Rates**

Case No. PU-23-307

ORDER

December 13, 2023

Preliminary Statement

On September 15, 2023, Northern States Power Company (NSP) filed an application to change its tariffs to modify the Service Reconnection Charge and the Manual Meter Reading Rider contained in its Electric Rate Book to reflect the cost of remote reconnection and remote meter reading related to its Advanced Meter Reading Infrastructure (AMI).

On September 27, 2023, the North Dakota Public Service Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing that provided until November 10, 2023, for receiving written comments and hearing requests. No responses were received.

The notice identified the issues to be considered in this proceeding are:

The issues to consider in this proceeding are:

1. Are the proposed tariff revisions just and reasonable?
2. Do the proposed rates comply with the tariff?
3. Are the proposed rates just and reasonable?
4. Whether the requested variance should be granted?

On November 8, 2023, the Commission discussed these issues with NSP and Commission staff in an informal hearing.

Discussion

The proposed tariff revisions include the following changes:

1. Tariff Sheet No. 5, Sheet No. 92 of the North Dakota Electric Rate Book-NDPSC No. 2- The service reconnection charge changes will be applied to customer bills starting on January 1, 2024.

2. Tariff Sheet Section No. 6, Sheet 1.1 of the North Dakota Electric Rate Book- NDPSC No. 2 Attachment A2 stipulates that reconnection fees will change from \$50 currently will be reduced to \$13.50 for customers with a standard AMI Meter effective January 1, 2024.

NSP originally proposed that all other customers would remain at \$50 until January 1, 2026, when the fees would increase to \$100. The Commission believes a rate of \$75 would be just and reasonable and more consistent with a gradualist ratemaking policy.

Having considered this matter, the Commission finds NSP's proposed tariff and rate revisions are just, reasonable, in compliance with the tariff and should be approved. Therefore, the Commission issues its:

Order

The Commission orders Northern States Power Company's tariff and rate revisions are APPROVED with the exception of the reconnection fee for customers without AMI, which shall be \$75 effective January 1, 2026.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Sheri Haugen-Hoffart
Commissioner



Randy Christmann
Chair



Julie Fedorchak
Commissioner