

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the	)	Application No. NG-0095/
Commission, on its own motion,	)	PI-213
seeking to investigate the	)	
effect of the Tax Cut and Jobs	)	ORDER CREATING SUB-DOCKETS,
Act of 2017 upon rates set by	)	ADDRESSING MOTIONS FOR
Nebraska's natural gas public	)	INTERVENTION, AND SETTING
utilities.	)	PLANNING CONFERENCE
	)	
	)	
NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a	)	Docket No. NG-0095.1
NorthWestern Energy	)	
	)	
-----	)	
	)	
Black Hills/Nebraska Gas	)	Docket No. NG-0095.2
Utility Company, LLC d/b/a	)	
Black Hills Energy	)	
	)	
-----	)	
	)	
Black Hills Gas Distribution,	)	Docket No. NG-0095.3
LLC d/b/a Black Hills Energy	)	
	)	
	)	
	)	Entered: April 26, 2018

BY THE HEARING OFFICER:

On March 20, 2018, the Nebraska Public Service Commission opened a docket seeking to investigate the effects of the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (TCJA), Public Law No. 115-97, upon all natural gas public utilities subject to the Commission's jurisdiction under the State Natural Gas Regulation Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 66-1801 - 66-1868.

Sub-docketing

There are three filings regarding the impact of the TCJA by Nebraska Jurisdictional Utilities, NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern) Black Hills/Nebraska Gas Utility Company, LLC d/b/a Black Hills Energy (BHE), and Black Hills Gas Distribution, LLC d/b/a Black Hills Energy (BHGD). Black Hills Energy requested in its filing that BHE and BHGD, while owned by the same entity, be considered separately for purposes of this docket. In the interests of clarity, expediency, and organization of the docket, I find that each Jurisdictional Utility, NorthWestern, BHE, and BHGD, shall each be assigned a separate sub-docket within the above-captioned docket as indicated above. Any orders entered in the general Docket of NG-0095/PI-213 shall

be deemed applicable to all sub-dockets, including orders granting formal interventions.

Formal Interventions

A Petition for Formal Intervention was filed by the City of Kearney on April 23, 2018. Formal Intervention was previously granted to the Nebraska Public Advocate and the City of Grand Island.

Pursuant to the Rules of Commission Procedure, 291 Neb. Admin. Code § 1-015.01 et seq., I find that the above-listed petition for Formal Intervention should be granted, and the City of Kearney should be designated as a Formal Intervenor and party to this proceeding. The City of Kearney further should be entitled to participate in the proceeding to the extent of its express interest in the matter and in a manner consistent with 291 Neb. Admin. Code § 1-015.01C.

Black Hills Energy, on behalf of both BHE and BHGD, also requested Formal Intervention in the above-captioned proceeding in its April 20, 2018 filing. Because BHE and BHGD are parties to this proceeding, as natural gas public utilities subject to the Commission's jurisdiction and ordered to participate pursuant to the Commission's order entered March 20, 2018, opening this docket, I find that this motion is unnecessary and shall not be considered by the Commission.

Planning Conference

I further find that a planning conference in the above-captioned matter should be scheduled on **Wednesday, May 2, 2018, at 1:30 p.m. CDT**, in the Commission Niobrara Conference Room, 300 The Atrium Building, 1200 N Street, Lincoln, Nebraska. A call bridge to enable parties to participate telephonically is also available at (888) 820-1398, code 4207969#. Parties wishing to participate telephonically should communicate this intention to Commission staff no later than **twenty-four (24) hours prior to the date and time planning conference.**

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Hearing Officer that the above-described Petitions for Formal Intervention shall be granted consistent with the terms set forth herein.

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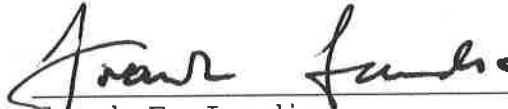
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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Planning Conference in the above-captioned matter be, and it is hereby, scheduled for **Wednesday, May 2, 2018, at 1:30 p.m. CDT** as provided herein.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 26th day of April, 2018.

BY:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Frank E. Landis", written over a horizontal line.

Frank E. Landis  
HEARING OFFICER