ELECTRIC TARIFF

NorthWestern Energy

Rule No. 14

MASTER METERING

14-1 Definitions - For purposes of this Rule:

A. "New building," means:

1. Any building for which construction commenced on or after March 1, 1981; and

2. Any existing building in which the replacement of the electrical system is commenced on or after March 1, 1981, in which there is more than one unit, and the occupant of each such unit has control over a portion of the electric energy used in such unit.

B. "Construction" or "replacement" commences at the time physical labor involved with the erection of the building or the actual replacement of the electrical system begins.

14-2 Prohibition of Master Meters - All electricity delivered to a new building shall be sold by the Utility on the basis of individual meter measurement for each occupancy unit, except for:

A. Electricity delivered to hotels, motels, hospitals, dormitories, and other similar transient lodging; or

B. Where the individual contractor or owner of a new building provides to the Utility, in writing before commencement of construction or replacement, data showing that the contractor's or owner's costs of purchasing and installing facilities for separate metering, when added to the Utility's costs of purchasing and installing separate meters, exceed the long-run benefits.

14-3 Utilities to Assure Compliance - Appeal to Commission

A. The Utility shall assure compliance with Rule No. 14-2 above and shall not furnish service to a new building that does not comply with Rule No. 14-2 above. If a dispute arises between the Utility and the builder or owner of a new building, either party may petition the Commission to make a determination on the appropriateness of requiring individual meters for the building.

B. The Utility shall submit to the Commission, by March 1, 1981, and semiannually thereafter:

1. A list of the contractors or owners of new buildings who, during the reporting period, have submitted written data to the Utility to establish exception status from Rule No. 14-2 above; and

2. A list of the contractors or owners of new buildings for which the Utility has recognized such exception status during the reporting period.