

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

Northern Natural Gas Company is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Delaware. Northern is authorized to do, and is doing, business in the states of Delaware, Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Louisiana.

Northern, a "natural gas company" within the meaning of the Natural Gas Act, is engaged in the transportation of natural gas in interstate commerce.