

March 3-4, 2016

ITEM 170-2005-R0316

**Request for Authorization to Execute a Utility Easement with Northwestern Energy; Montana State University**

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**THAT**

The Board of Regents authorizes Montana State University to execute agreement utility easement with Northwestern Energy to extend their electrical utility along the southern boundary of MSU's campus from South 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the Access Road aligned with South 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

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**EXPLANATION**

1. Northwestern Energy (NWE) has the need to connect electrical utility distribution systems located along 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue to increase the reliability and capacity of their distribution system serving MSU and the south side of Bozeman.
  2. Northwestern Energy has requested that MSU grant NWE a utility easement to facilitate the orderly expansion of infrastructure, and thus the orderly growth of the city and MSU, in a way that will protect the welfare of both current and future citizens.
  3. MSU will benefit from expanded accessibility to Northwestern Energy's electrical distribution system to facilitate future development. Additionally, MSU will benefit from reliability/capacity of electrical distribution on the south side of Campus. This benefit satisfies requirements of BOR Policy 1003.6.
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**ATTACHMENTS**

**Attachment #1 - Map**