

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
2000 Electric Operations
Annual Report**

Case No. PU-399-01-186

**NOTICE OF HEARING, NOTICE OF PUBLIC INPUT SESSIONS,
AND NOTICE OF INTERVENTION DEADLINE**

November 21, 2001

On September 7, 2001, the North Dakota Public Service Commission received a complaint from the North Dakota Public Service Commission Staff (Staff) alleging that Montana Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU), is recovering more revenue than necessary to earn a reasonable return on its investment in North Dakota to provide electric utility service. Staff alleges that MDU's electric service rates should be changed to reduce annual revenue by \$9.155 million.

On September 19, 2001, the Commission found that the Staff's Complaint states a prima facie case and that the Complaint should be served on MDU.

The Commission believes the public interest requires the Staff's Complaint be investigated. Issues to be considered include:

1. What is the value of MDU's property, used and useful, for the service and convenience of the public in North Dakota?
2. What is MDU's rate of return on its property, used and useful, for the service and convenience in North Dakota?
3. What is a just and reasonable rate of return on MDU's property, used and useful, for the service and convenience of the public in North Dakota?
4. What rates and charges are necessary to provide a just and reasonable rate of return on MDU's property, used and useful, for the service and convenience of the public in North Dakota?
5. Are MDU's rate schedules designed in such a manner that they result in a basis of charge to its customers that is just and reasonable without discrimination?

6. Other relevant information or proposals concerning the proceeding.

A **public hearing** on this matter will be held beginning **February 25, 2002 at 9 a.m. (CST)** in the Commission hearing room, State Capitol, 12th Floor, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505. Anyone wishing to become a party to this proceeding must file a Petition to Intervene by January 25, 2002.

Public input sessions will be held via interactive television on **December 11, 2001 at 12:30 p.m. (CST)** at locations set forth below. Members of the public are invited to appear and participate in the informal discussions. The meetings are not considered part of the technical hearing and the discussion at the meetings will not become part of the evidence reviewed by the Commission in making its decision. The discussion will, however, aid the Commission and its staff in identifying the areas of concern to the members of the public.

Bismarck State College Vocational Technical Ctr Rm 228 1200 College Dr Bismarck ND	University of North Dakota Creighton Bldg Rm 109 1410 University Ave Williston, ND
Dickinson State University North Campus Rm 104 1679 6th Ave W Dickinson, ND	

For more information contact the Public Service Commission, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505, 701-328-2400 or Relay North Dakota 1-800-366-6888 TTY. If you require any auxiliary aids or services, such as readers, signers, or Braille materials, please notify, Jon H. Mielke, Executive Secretary, at least 24 hours prior to the hearing.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**Anthony T. Clark
Commissioner**

**Susan E. Wefald
President**

**Leo M. Reinbold
Commissioner**