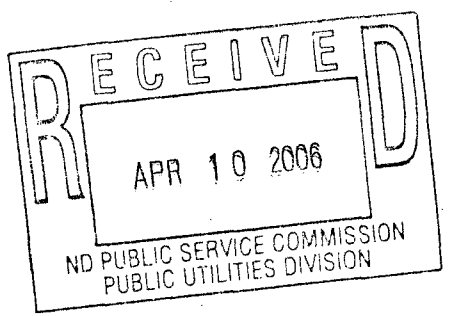


**Burleigh County Township Officers Association
2600 236th St NE
McKenzie, ND 58572**

April 1, 2006

North Dakota Public Service Commission
12th & 13th Floor
600 E Blvd Ave Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480



RE: Capital Electric Service Area

We are writing regarding the ongoing dispute between Capital Electric Cooperative and Montana Dakota Utilities over providing electric services in Bismarck. As long time members and customers of Capital Electric, we want to express our support for our local cooperative.

Capital Electric has been an important part of Burleigh County for decades. Capital Electric had the foresight in the late 40s and early 50s to see a need for electric services in rural Burleigh County and the coop took the initiative to fill that need. Capital Electric and North Dakotas rural electric cooperatives care about their members and their communities.

The growth we are seeing in the towns and communities of rural Burleigh County is a testament to Capital Electric, its innovation, and its desire to provide low cost, reliable electric power to our citizens. Many of us in North Dakota can still remember the day "when the lights came on". They came on because Capital Electric was there. Today, the growth and expansion of Bismarck and rural Burleigh County can be attributed to the investments made by Capital Electric and their position as our primary electric provider. Without the investments made by Capital Electric this unprecedented growth would not be possible.

Capital Electric has been, and will continue to be, an important partner in Burleigh County's past, present and future. We want to say "thank you" to cooperative organization that has meant so much to so many people all of these years. We urge all of our fellow North Dakotans to stand up for Capital Electric and all of the rural electric cooperatives in our great state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barb Knutson".

Barb Knutson-Secretary
Burleigh County Township Officers Association