

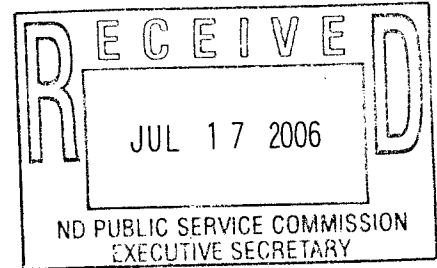


WILLIAM P. PEARCE
PATRICK W. DURICK
B. TIMOTHY DURICK
GARY R. THUNE
JEROME C. KETTLESON
LARRY L. BOSCHEE ♦♦
LAWRENCE BENDER, PC ♦
JONATHAN P. SANSTEAD
TIFFANY L. JOHNSON

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
314 EAST THAYER AVENUE
P.O. BOX 400
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58502

TELEPHONE (701) 223-2890
FAX (701) 223-7865
E-MAIL: law.office@pearce-durick.com

July 14, 2006



Honorable Gail Hagerty
Judge of the District Court
514 E. Thayer Avenue
P.O. Box 1013
Bismarck, ND 58502-1013

Re: *Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc.*
v. North Dakota Public Service Commission
Civil No. 06-C-1290

Dear Judge Hagerty:

On July 13, 2006 I filed a Petition for Writ of Prohibition and Order to Show Cause in the above matter. In your absence, I was unable to find a judge to consider the Order to Show Cause, although I did get a date and time for a hearing (July 25, 2006 at 10:30 a.m.). On July 14, 2006, the Clerk suggested that Judge Sonna Anderson might in your absence consider signing the Order to Show Cause. Judge Anderson signed the Order setting the hearing before you on July 25, 2006.

We thought a short explanation of how this matter came about would be appropriate.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

PEARCE & DURICK

By

Jerome C. Kettleison
Phone: (701) 333-0104
Email: jck@pearce-durick.com

JCK/ef

cc. William W. Binek, Public Service Commission
Dan Kuntz, MDU Resources Group