

400 North Fourth Street
Bismarck, ND 58501
(701) 222-7900

December 1, 2006

Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
State Capitol Building
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Re: Application for Trade Secret Protection
Advance Determination of Prudence
Case No. PU-06-482

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (Montana-Dakota), a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., herewith respectfully files an Application for Trade Secret Protection covering certain information included in the Direct Testimony and Exhibits of select Company witnesses as fully described in the attached Application.

Please acknowledge receipt by stamping or initialing the duplicate copy of this letter attached hereto and returning the same in the enclosed self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Sincerely,



Donald R. Ball
Vice President – Regulatory Affairs

Attachment
cc: D. Kuntz