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January 20, 2009

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JAN 21 2009

Darrell Nitschke, Executive Director
North Dakota Public Service Commission
State Capitol Building
Bismarck, ND 58505

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Re: Request for Extension of Compliance
Requirement – Big Stone II Advance
Determination of Prudence
Case No. PU-06-482

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (Montana-Dakota), a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., herewith submits a request to extend the deadline to file proposals to implement the demand-side management and conservation programs as required in Ordering Paragraph 2 of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order issued by the Commission on August 27, 2008 (Commission Order). Montana-Dakota requests an extension of time to make the filing otherwise due by February 27, 2009 to July 1, 2009.

Montana-Dakota requests this extension in order to provide more timely information to the Commission in support of demand-side management (DSM) and conservation programs identified as more economic resources than Big Stone II as required in the Commission Order. Montana-Dakota is currently preparing its Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) for the 2009-2011 planning horizon to be filed with the Commission on July 1, 2009. The results of the IRP will provide current cost information necessary to support the portfolio of DSM and conservation programs Montana-Dakota will be requesting approval to implement as part of the filing requirement in this case. As noted in MDU Exhibit No. 219 filed in this Case, Montana-Dakota is offering several conservation programs to customers today and the extension of time to file will not affect the continuation of those programs.

Another factor underlying Montana-Dakota's request for an extension of time is to allow consideration of the analysis initiated in the Commission's Workshop on Cost/Benefit Analysis held on January 5, 2009. Montana-Dakota participated in the

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Letter Requesting Extension of Deadline to File
Proposals to Implement Demand-Side &
Conservation Programs

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources
Group, Inc.

workshop and looks forward to further discussions with Commission Staff and other participants as the Commission considers the formulation of guidelines and/or rules regarding DSM and conservation programs.

Montana-Dakota respectfully requests the Commission grant this request for an extension of time to file its electric conservation and DSM programs by July 1, 2009.

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