

**APPROVED**

DATE:

8-27-08

**MOTION**

August 27, 2008

**Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of  
MDU Resources Group  
Acquisition of Intermountain Gas Company  
Application**

**Case No. PU-08-490**

I move the Commission issue a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.'s Acquisition of Intermountain Gas Company Application, Case No. PU-08-490.

JRM

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**MDU Resources Group, Inc. and its Divisions  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
Great Plains Natural Gas Co.  
Acquisition of Intermountain Gas Company  
Application**

**Case No. PU-08-490**

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING**

**August 27, 2008**

On July 9, 2008, MDU Resources Group, Inc. (MDU), and its Divisions, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. and Great Plains Natural Gas Co. filed an application for authorization to acquire the stock of Intermountain Gas Company (Intermountain). Both Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. and Great Plains Natural Gas Corporation provide utilities service in North Dakota.

Intermountain is a privately owned gas utility with its headquarters in Boise, Idaho. It is engaged in business as a local natural gas distribution company in 74 communities in Southern Idaho. Intermountain currently provides natural gas utility service to approximately 302,000 customers with a service territory covering more than 38,000 square miles.

On July 1, 2008, MDU and Intermountain entered into the acquisition agreement. The applicant contends that the acquisition:

- Is in the public interest and should be approved;
- Will not adversely affect its North Dakota utilities operations;
- Provides an opportunity for growth in a new and expanding market;
- Will have no immediate impact on the rates and tariffs of North Dakota customers;
- Provides for sharing expertise and spreading administrative and operating costs over a larger organization;
- Will not affect MDU's credit rating.


The issue to be considered in this case is whether the merger is in the public interest.

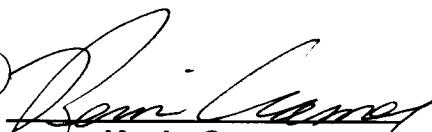
Those interested are invited to comment on the application in writing. Persons desiring a hearing must file a written request identifying their interest in the proceeding and the reasons for requesting a hearing. Comments and requests for hearings must be received by **September 22, 2008**. If deemed appropriate, the Commission can determine the matter without a hearing.

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 Gloria Geiger, Executive Secretary.

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

  
**Tony Clark**  
**Commissioner**

  
**Susan E. Wefald**  
**President**

  
**Kevin Cramer**  
**Commissioner**