

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU  
Resources Group, Inc.  
19.5 MW Wind Facility – Rhame, ND  
Public Convenience & Necessity**

**Case No. PU-08-942**

**ORDER GRANTING CERTIFICATE**

**March 25, 2009**

On December 18, 2008, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU) filed an application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct, own, and operate a 19.5 MW wind energy facility. The proposed project, referred to as the Cedar Hills project, consists of thirteen 1.5 MW GE turbines and associated facilities to be located on 640 acres in Sections 23 & 24, Township 132 N, Range 105 W, approximately five miles west of the city of Rhame in Bowman County, North Dakota.

On January 14, 2009 the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing. The notice provided until February 20, 2009 for receiving written comments or hearing requests. Written comments were received from the State Historical Society of North Dakota on January 23, 2009. No requests for hearing were received. The notice identified the following issues to be considered:

1. Whether public convenience and necessity will be served by construction and ownership of the facilities.
2. Whether Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., is fit, willing and able to provide service.

On March 11, 2009 the Commission discussed this matter with representatives from MDU and Commission staff at an informal hearing.

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. is a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., which is a Delaware Corporation authorized to do business in North Dakota as a foreign corporation, and is doing business in North Dakota as a public utility subject to the jurisdiction of and regulation by this Commission.

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. generates, transmits, and distributes electricity in Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming. It is an experienced electric generation, transmission and distribution utility that currently serves over 120,000 retail electric customers in the northern great plains. Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. has the experience and resources to construct, own, and operate the Cedar Hills project.

Montana-Dakota's application indicates that the Cedar Hills project is needed to provide reliable and economic renewable energy to its customers.

The Commission finds public convenience and necessity will be served by construction and ownership of the facilities.

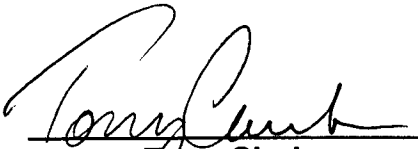
The Commission finds that Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. is fit, willing and able to provide service.

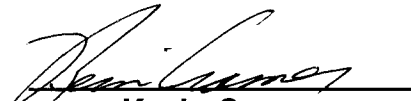
**Order**

The Commission Orders:

1. The application of Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct, own, and operate the Cedar Hills project is GRANTED.
2. Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 5392 is issued to Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. to construct, own, and operate the Cedar Hills 19.5 MW wind energy facility in Bowman County, North Dakota.

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

  
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**Tony Clark**  
Commissioner

  
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**Kevin Cramer**  
President

  
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**Brian P. Kalk**  
Commissioner

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**

**Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity  
Certificate Number 5392**

*This is to certify that public convenience and necessity require, and permission is granted for Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., to construct, own and operate a 19.5 MW wind energy facility known as the Cedar Hills project in Sections 23 and 24, Township 132N, Range 105W, Bowman County, North Dakota.*


*This certificate is issued in accordance with the Order of this Commission dated March 25, 2009 in Case No. PU-08-942, and is subject to the conditions and limitations noted in the Order.*


*This certificate is conditioned upon Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc. securing the franchise or other authority of the proper municipal or other public authority for the exercise of these rights and privileges.*

*Bismarck, North Dakota, March 25, 2009.*

**ATTEST:**

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

  
**Executive Secretary**

  
**Commissioner**