



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

COMMISSIONERS

Kevin Cramer
Tony Clark
Brian P. Kalk

Executive Secretary
Darrell Nitschke

Mr. Allen C. Hoberg
Office of Administrative Hearings
1707 North 9th Street, Lower Level
Bismarck, ND 58501

Re: Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc.
Electric Rate Increase Application
Case No. PU-10-124

Dear Mr. Hoberg:

Enclosed is a request for an Administrative Law Judge in the captioned case. A hearing will begin Monday, November 8, 2010, at the Commission hearing room, State Capitol, 12th Floor, Bismarck, North Dakota, starting at 8:30 a.m. Central Time. A copy of the Notice of Hearing is enclosed.

The Administrative Law Judge will serve as a procedural law judge and the hearing will be electronically recorded.

If you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you.

Best regards,

Illona A. Jeffcoat-Sacco
General Counsel

enclosure
c: w/encl. Daniel Kuntz

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU
Resources Group, Inc.
Electric Rate Increase
Application**

Case No. PU-10-124

**NOTICE OF HEARING and
NOTICE OF PUBLIC INPUT SESSIONS**

June 16, 2010

On April 19, 2010, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc. (MDU) filed an application to increase its rates for electric utility service to provide additional annual revenue of \$15,396,303 or a 14% increase over current rates. The proposed monthly increase for a residential customer using 750 kilowatt-hours in a month is \$7.63.

A **public hearing** on this matter will be held beginning **November 8, 2010 at 8:30 a.m. CDT (7:30 a.m. MDT)** in the Commission hearing room, State Capitol, 12th Floor, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505. Issues to be considered in this matter are:

1. What is the value of MDU's property, used and useful, for the service and convenience of the public in North Dakota?
2. What is MDU's rate of return on its property, used and useful, for the service and convenience of the public in North Dakota?
3. What is a just and reasonable rate of return on MDU's property, used and useful, for the service and convenience of the public in North Dakota?
4. What rates and charges are necessary to provide a just and reasonable rate of return on MDU's property, used and useful, for the service and convenience of the public in North Dakota?
5. Are MDU's proposed rate schedules designed in such a manner that they result in a basis of charge to its customers that is just and reasonable without discrimination?
6. Other relevant information or proposals concerning the proceeding.

Public input sessions will be held via interactive television on **July 12 at 12:00 p.m. CDT (11:00 a.m. MDT)** and on **July 13 at 7:30 p.m. CDT (6:30 p.m. MDT)**. Members of the public are invited to appear and participate in the public input session at the locations set forth below.

Bismarck State College Vocational Technical Ctr Rm 216 1200 College Dr Bismarck ND 58501	Dickinson State University Klinefelter Hall, Room 216 Dickinson, ND 58601
Williston State College Main Building, Room 108 Williston ND 58801	

The public will also be able to hear the input session by connecting to the Commission's web site <http://www.nd.gov/psc> and then clicking on the link at the bottom of the home page that says Broadcast of Public Input Sessions over IVN. The Commission will receive e-mail questions during the session at ndpsc@nd.gov.

A public input session is not considered part of the technical hearing and the discussion at a session will not become part of the record evidence reviewed by the Commission in making its decision. The discussion will, however, aid the Commission and its staff in identifying areas of concern that may require further investigation.

For more information contact the Public Service Commission, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505, 701-328-2400 or 877-245-6685 (toll free in North Dakota), 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 the Commission at least 24 hours in advance.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Tony Clark
Commissioner


Kevin Cramer
Chairman


Brian P. Kalk
Commissioner



REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE--APPEAL, APPLICATION, OR PETITION
 NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
 SFN 17819 (Rev. 03-2001)

Name of Agency, Board, or Commission
 North Dakota Public Service Commission

The above named agency, board, or commission requests designation of an administrative law judge from the Office of Administrative Hearings for the Montana-Dakota Utilities Company's electric rate increase application - PSC Case No. PU-10-124

(e.g., application of [name], appeal of [name], petition of [name]). Authority for the administrative action is found in Title 49 Chapter 49-05 (North Dakota Century Code and/or North Dakota Administrative Code).

Please attach related documents and correspondence.

The administrative action is more fully described as follows:
 MDU filed an application to increase its rates for electric utility service to provide additional annual revenue of \$15,396,303 or a 14% increase over current rates.

It requests designation of an administrative law judge (please check one):

- To conduct the hearing and issue recommended findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order.
- To serve as a procedural administrative law judge only (no recommended decision). The agency head will be present at the hearing as required by NDCC 54-57-04(6).
- To conduct the hearing, issue findings of fact, conclusions of law, and a final order.

PLEASE MAKE A REQUEST FOR AN ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE AT LEAST ONE MONTH BEFORE THE HEARING.

Please list parties, including the agency if it is a Party, and Representation [attorney (or other)] if known, or Agency Contact: (Attach separate list if necessary.)

AGENCY See attached	Address	Telephone Number
Representation	Address	Telephone Number
PARTY	Address	Telephone Number
Representation	Address	Telephone Number
PARTY	Address	Telephone Number
Representation	Address	Telephone Number

Additional Comments
 A hearing will begin Monday, November 8, 2010, at the Commission hearing room, State Capitol, 12th Floor, Bismarck, North Dakota, starting at 8:30 a.m. Central Time.

(For agencies required to use OAH, notice of hearing will be issued by the administrative law judge, unless a procedural administrative law judge is requested. Other requesting agencies and agencies requesting a procedural administrative law judge should first contact OAH about scheduling a hearing. If notice has already been issued, attach a copy of the notice.)

Typed or Printed Name and Title of Requesting Person Ilona A. Jeffcoat-Sacco, General Counsel	Date 18 June 2010
Signature of Requesting Person x	Telephone Number 701-328-2407

Attachment
Request for ALJ
18 June 2010

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc.
Electric Rate Increase Application
Case No. PU-10-124

AGENCY	Address	Telephone Number
North Dakota Public Service Commission	600 E. Blvd. Ave. Dept. 408 Bismarck, ND 58505-0480	701-328-2400
Representation Annette Bendish	Address Same as above	Telephone Number 701-328-2421
PARTY Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.	Address 400 N. 4 th Street Bismarck, ND 58501	Telephone Number 701-222-7900
Representation Daniel Kuntz Associate General Counsel MDU Resources Group, Inc.	Address P.O. Box 5650 Bismarck, ND 58506-5650	Telephone Number 701-530-1016
PARTY	Address	Telephone Number
Representation	Address	Telephone Number
PARTY	Address	Telephone Number
Representation	Address	Telephone Number