

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

February 6, 2013

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



Re: Case No. PU-10-164
Tree/Shrub Replacement Report

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (Montana-Dakota), a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc. herewith submits its report of tree and shrub replacement plantings in accordance with the Tree and Shrub Replacement Plan for the Merricourt Wind Farm to Ellendale 230 kV transmission line submitted on March 26, 2012 in this case.

Provided as Attachment A is schedule showing the planned replacements and summary of the actual plantings. The Plan and Record documentation, provided by the James River Soil Conservation District, is provided as Attachment B. Montana-Dakota has discovered that the minimum number of replacements, based on the two to one replacement requirement, was not met with the plantings completed in the fall of 2012. As noted on Attachment A, 822 plantings were completed and 974 tree/shrubs should have been planted. The majority of this deficiency is associated with one landowner where 144 additional trees should have been planted and the remainder of the trees should have been planted in a public area. Montana-Dakota has contracted with the James River Soil Conservation District to complete the required tree replacements in the spring of 2013 at the landowner's property, if they so choose, and in public locations within the project area.

As required by the Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specifications issued as part of the Commission's July 13, 2011 Order in this case, the tree and shrubs will be inspected once a year for three years, on or about the anniversary of the plantings. A report documenting the condition of the trees and shrubs will be submitted to the Commission by October 1, 2013. Montana-Dakota will also report the locations where the trees are

by October 1, 2013. Montana-Dakota will also report the locations where the trees are planted this spring by July 1, 2013.

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,



Tamie A. Aberle
Director of Regulatory Affairs

Enclosure

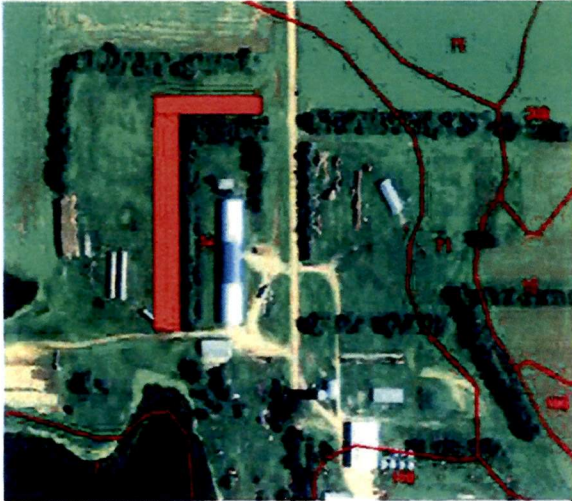
Cc: Henry Ford – Montana-Dakota
Tom Crary- Montana-Dakota

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
Tree & Shrub Mitigation Report
230 Kv Transmission Line - Case No. PU-10-164

Landowner	Planned		
	Tree/Shrub Removal	Actual Removal	Actual Planting
Arlene Miller	4	4	0
Carol Morehead	127	127	254
Dennis & Patricia Holland	16	16	0
Emma Gulke Trust	40	44	0
Greg & Mary Kay Brokaw	11	11	22
James & Sheila Brauer	193	193	242
Kenneth & Anne Wolf	26	1	0
Kevin & Jaclyn Brokaw	63	43	118
Lavern & Darlene Wolf	4	4	10
Mary A. Webster Living Trust	10	3	6
Matthew & Darla Herman	1	1	1
Paul & Deanne Olson	21	10	0
Timothy & Darla Martin	6	8	0
Wishek Investment Company	12	22	44
MDU Option-Forbes City Park	0	0	32
MDU Option-Monango Park	0	0	32
MDU Option-City of Ellendale	0	0	31
MDU Option-City of Oakes	0	0	30
TOTAL	534	487	822
Required Replacements		974	
Replacements to be completed Spring of 2013			152

Tree and Shrub Planting Plan and Record

Name Morehead, Carol/Ken Address 9698 88th Ave SE Ellendale ND 58436 Phone 535-0020



Planted by Renee, Loreli, Tokina, Ethan, Gary
Sunny, slight breeze, 67 degrees - 5/2/2012
Laid barrier 5/7/2012 - Renee, Loreli, Ethan, Gary
Lucas, Shantel - strong w/nw wind, 53 degrees

SE 3 129 63
Quarter Sec Twp Range

Planned by: Rs, Lh Planted by: Rs Lh Tm Er Gd
Date: 12/12/2011 Date: 5/2/2012

F/Stead XXXXX; Field _____; W/Life _____
S/Fallow _____; if other, specify type of
land preparation _____

New Planting _____; Replants _____
(Indicate date of original planting) _____

CRP _____; EQIP _____ CO-01 _____
Other (Indicate) MDU

Between the row spacing 16 feet

Soil Type 74 Suitability Group 1, 3

Protected from Grazing YES (Yes, No)

Distance from Road and/or Buildings 200 Feet
Will need a variance from township - received

Condition of site
at planting time: Good
(Good, Fair, Poor)

Approved _____ (Yes, No) Date _____
By: _____ Title _____

Field No.	Planned Length	Planted Length	Planted Width (Inc. 10' on ea. side of planting)	Dead Trees	Row #	Row #1 is on North and West Side of Planting	Spacing in row	Number Planted (Estimated)	Number Planted (Actual)	Spraying and/or Cultivating Plan and Record. (State how weed control is to be accomplished: - type of spray & rate and/or type of cultivation/equipment - indicating when action is to take place.)
						Species of Tree or Shrub				
1	310	332	85	2	1	Colorado Blue Spruce	12	25	26	WeedBarrier MDU Planting for Transmission Line BE SURE TO LOAD EXACT NUMBER OF TREES - WE CANNOT PLANT ANYMORE THAN THE NUMBER ESTIMATED!!! Measured...7-18-2012
	310	327		1	2	Sxind Cottonwood	12	25	26	
	310	330		5	3	Amur Maple	8	39	40	
2	570	587		2	1	Colorado Blue Spruce	12	47	46	
	570	582		3	2	Sxind Cottonwood	12	47	46	
	570	578		15	3	Amur Maple	8	71	70	
	2640	2736	0.605					254	254	

Tree and Shrub Planting Plan and Record

Name Wolf, LaVern Address 9155 65th Ave SE Ashley ND 58413 Phone 701-698-2645



Planted by Renee, Lorell, Ethan, Lucas, Jeremiah, Ashton, Abbie, Rebecca, Autumn
 Cloudy, Cool, Slight Breeze, 47 degrees
 8:50 AM - 9:10 AM

Quarter 33 Sec 130 Twp 67 Range
 Planned by: Rs/Lh Planted by: Rs, Lh, and Crew
 Date: _____ Date: 5/30/2012
 F/Stead _____; Field _____; W/Life _____
 S/Fallow _____; if other, specify type of
 land preparation _____
 New Planting XXXXXX; Replants _____
 (Indicate date of original planting) _____
 CRP _____; EQIP _____ CO-01 _____
 Other (Indicate) MDU Tree Planting/NCS
 Between the row spacing 16
 Soil Type 92B Suitability Group 3,1,8
 Protected from Grazing YES (Yes, No)
 Distance from Road and/or Buildings OK

Condition of site at planting time: Good - Tilled
 (Good, Fair, Poor)

Approved _____ (Yes, No) Date _____
 By: _____ Title _____

Field No.	Planned Length	Planted Length	Planted Width (Inc. 10' on ea. side of planting)	Dead Trees	Row #	Row #1 is on North or West Side of Planting West	Spacing in row	Number Planted (Estimated)	Number Planted (Actual)	Spraying and/or Cultivating Plan and Record. (State how weed control is to be accomplished: - type of spray & rate and/or type of cultivation/equipment - indicating when action is to take place.)
						Species of Tree or Shrub				
1	120	116	20	1	1	Blue Spruce - MDU	12	10	10	Weed Barrier Trees are being cared for. Grass is being mowed and weeds are being maintained. Lavern is paying for the extra footage planted. Measured 8/8/2012
	280	294		1	1	Blue Spruce - NCS	12	24	25	
	400	410	0.055					34	35	

Tree and Shrub Planting Plan and Record

Name Webster, Mary Address 8667 Hwy 11 Ellendale, ND 58436 Phone 349-4312



Handplanted by Renee, Loreli, Autumn
Cloudy, Cool, Slight Breeze;

NE Quarter 9 Sec 129 Twp 63 Range

Planned by: Rs/Lh Planted by: Handplanted
Date: 5/15/2012 Date: 5/23/2012

F/Stead _____; Field _____; W/Life _____
S/Fallow _____; if other, specify type of
land preparation _____

New Planting _____; Replants _____
(Indicate date of original
planting) _____

CRP _____; EQIP _____ CO-01 _____
Other (Indicate) MDU Trees

Between the row spacing 16 feet

Soil Type 74 Suitability Group 1,3

Protected from Grazing YES (Yes, No)

Distance from Road and/or Buildings OK

Condition of site
at planting time: Grass
(Good, Fair, Poor)

Approved _____ (Yes, No) Date _____
By: _____ Title _____

Field No.	Planned Length	Planted Length	Planted Width (Inc. 10' on ea. side of planting)	Dead Trees	Row #	Row #1 is on North Side of Planting	Spacing in row	Number Planted (Estimated)	Number Planted (Actual)	Spraying and/or Cultivating Plan and Record. (State how weed control is to be accomplished - type of spray & rate and/or type of cultivation/equipment - indicating when action is to take place)
						Species of Tree or Shrub				
1	72		20	0	1	Colorado Blue Spruce	12	6	6	Handplanted - Trees are being cared for. Grass is being mowed around them and they are being watered.
	72	0		0.0				6	6	

Tree and Shrub Planting Plan and Record

6755 91st Street SE

Name Herman, Matt Address Ashley ND 58413 Phone _____



SE Quarter 5 Sec 130 Twp 66 Range

Planned by: _____ Planted by: Matt Herman
Date: _____ Date: _____

F/Stead _____; Field _____; W/Life _____
S/Fallow _____; if other, specify type of
land preparation _____

New Planting _____; Replants _____
(Indicate date of original
planting) _____

CRP _____; EQIP _____ CO-01 _____
Other (Indicate) MDU

Between the row spacing Handplanted

Soil Type 92 B Suitability Group 3, 1

Protected from Grazing Yes (Yes, No)

Distance from Road and/or Buildings OK

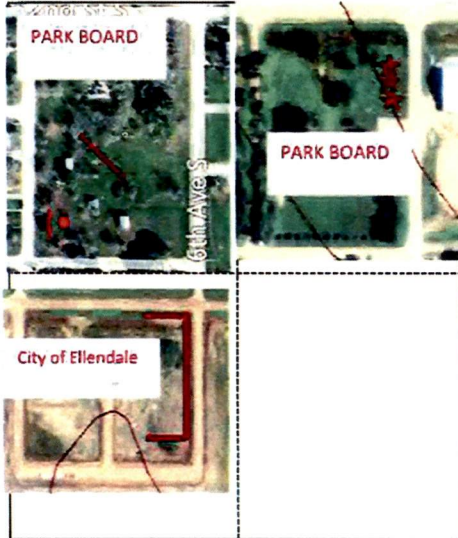
Condition of site
at planting time: Sod
(Good, Fair, Poor)

Approved _____ (Yes, No) Date _____
By: _____ Title _____

Field No.	Planned Length	Planted Length	Planted Width (Inc. 10' on ea. side of planting)	Dead Trees	Row #	Row #1 is on North or West Side of Planting	Spacing in row	Number Planted (Estimated)	Number Planted (Actual)	Spraying and/or Cultivating Plan and Record. (State how weed control is to be accomplished: - type of spray & rate and/or type of cultivation/equipment - indicating when action is to take place.)
						Species of Tree or Shrub				
1					1	Honeygold Apple Tree		1	1	Looked at the Apple Tree 8/8/2012. Tree is broken at the base where it was grafted. Darla thought maybe the strong wind they had two to three weeks ago broke it down but not sure what exactly caused the tree to break.
	0	0		0.0				1	1	

Tree and Shrub Planting Plan and Record

Name City of Ellendale Address _____ Phone _____



Quarter 12 Sec 129 Twp 63 Range _____
 13-129-63
 Planned by: Rs/Lh Planted by: Handplanted
 Date: 1/26/2010 Date: 6/11/2012

F/Stead _____; Field _____; W/Life _____
 S/Fallow _____; if other, specify type of _____
 land preparation _____

New Planting _____; Replants _____
 (Indicate date of original planting) _____

CRP _____; EQIP _____ CO-01 _____
 Other (Indicate) MDU

Between the row spacing NA

Soil Type 74 Suitability Group 1.3

Protected from Grazing YES (Yes, No)

Distance from Road and/or Buildings OK

Condition of site at planting time: Dry
 (Good, Fair, Poor)

Approved _____ (Yes, No) Date _____
 By _____ Title _____

Field No	Planned Length	Planted Length	Planted Width (Inc. 10' on ea. side of planting)	Acres	Row #	Row #1 is on North or West Side of Planting West	Species of Tree or Shrub	Spacing in row	Number Planted (Estimated)	Number Planted (Actual)	Spraying and/or Cultivating Plan and Record (State how weed control is to be accomplished - type of spray & rate and/or type of cultivation/equipment - indicating when action is to take place)
							<u>City of Ellendale</u>				Park Board is getting 16 Trees Trees will be planted more than 12 feet apart <u>City of Ellendale:</u> 13 Amur Maple @ New Addition 2 Bur Oak @ New Addition <u>Park Board:</u> North Park. 5 Bur Oak South Park. 1 Bur Oak. 5 Black Walnut. 5 Ohio Buckeye Checked trees 7-16-2012 North Park. 4 oak were dead - needed watering. was very dry South Park. 5 of the 11 were pulled out and laying on the ground - including live ones. Tried to re-plant them but it's not looking good.
							<u>New Addition</u>				
							<u>Amur Maple</u>		13	13	
							<u>Bur Oak</u>		2	2	
							<u>Park Board</u>				
							<u>North Park</u>				
							<u>Bur Oak</u>		5	5	
							<u>South Park</u>				
							<u>Bur Oak</u>		1	1	
							<u>Black Walnut</u>		5	5	
							<u>Ohio Buckeye</u>		5	5	
	0	0	0						31	31	

Tree and Shrub Planting Plan and Record

Name City of Oakes-MDU Address Oakes, ND 58474 Phone 701-742-2137



Handplanted 6/7/2012

Quarter 21 Sec 131 Twp 59 Range

Planned by: _____ Planted by: The Crew & Rs, Lh
Date: _____ Date: 6/7/2012

F/Stead _____; Field _____; W/Life _____
S/Fallow _____; if other, specify type of
land preparation _____

New Planting _____; Replants _____
(Indicate date of original
planting) _____

CRP _____; EQIP _____ CO-01 _____
Other (Indicate) MDU Trees

Between the row spacing 16 feet

Soil Type 8,13,27B Suitability Group 1.1K,1

Protected from Grazing Yes (Yes, No)

Distance from Road and/or Buildings Ok

Condition of site
at planting time: Sod
(Good, Fair, Poor)

Approved _____ (Yes, No) Date _____
By: _____ Title _____

Field No	Planned Length	Planted Length	Planted Width (Inc. 10' on ea. side of planting)	Dead Trees	Row #	Row #1 is on North or West Side of Planting West	Spacing in row	Number Planted (Estimated)	Number Planted (Actual)	Spraying and/or Cultivating Plan and Record (State how weed control is to be accomplished: - type of spray & rate and/or type of cultivation/equipment - indicating when action is to take place.)
						Species of Tree or Shrub				
1			36	7	1	Hackberry		15	15	Hand plant for MDU Planted east of swimming pool by the football practice field. Planted in 2 rows. Checked trees 7/27/2012
				3	2	Ohio Buckeye		15	15	
	0	0	0					30	30	