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Bismarck, ND 58501  
701-222-7900

November 4, 2020

Executive Secretary  
North Dakota Public Service Commission  
State Capitol Building  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

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

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (Montana-Dakota) herewith electronically submits its Tree & Shrub Report follow up report to the 2016 inspection results. Tree & Shrub Reports were required pursuant to the Commission's Order issued in Case No. PU-10-164. This report provides a summary of the trees planted since 2012 as updated to reflect all activity through October 2020.

- Attachment A - 2020 inspection results
- Attachment B - 2016 report

If you have any questions regarding this filing, please contact me at (701) 222-7855 or [travis.jacobson@mdu.com](mailto:travis.jacobson@mdu.com).

Sincerely,

*/s/ Travis R. Jacobson*

Travis R. Jacobson  
Director of Regulatory Affairs

Attachments

154 PU-10-164 Filed 11/04/2020 Pages: 3  
Tree & Shrub Report  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
Travis Jacobson, Director of Reg. Affairs

**Merricourt Tree & Shrub Inventory as of 2020**

| Landowner   | Net Trees<br>2016 | Additional<br>Trees Dead | Net Trees<br>2020 |
|---|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Brauer, Sheila and James                              | 401               | 1/                       | 401               |
| Brokaw, Greg  | 4                 | -2                       | 2                 |
| Brokaw, Kevin   | 58                | 0 2/                     | 58                |
| City of Ellendale                                     | 21                | -15 3/                   | 6                 |
| City of Oakes   | 0                 |                          | 0                 |
| Forbes City Park                                      | 33                | -4                       | 29                |
| Herman, Matt  | 0                 |                          | 0                 |
| Monango City Park                                     | 10                | -6                       | 4                 |
| Monango City Park                                     |                   | 54 4/                    | 54                |
| Morehead, Carol                                       | 223               | 5/                       | 223               |
| Webster, Mary   | 6                 |                          | 6                 |
| Wishek Investment                                     | 26                | -2                       | 24                |
| Wolf, LaVern  | 10                |                          | 10                |
| Guelph Gym  | 0                 |                          | 0                 |
| Total   | 792               | 25                       | 817               |
| Survival Rate (Total trees planted 2012-2015 - 1,229) |                   |                          | 66%               |

1/ District estimated 80% of trees remain alive.

2/ Site is not being maintained. Volunteer elm trees are overtaking the planting

3/ City has planted approximately 15 trees per year since 2017.

4/ City recently planted 54 trees with tubes to protect.

5/ Trees are alive but heavily browsed by deer and rabbits.

**Merricourt Tree & Shrub Inventory as of 2016**

| Landowner                | Trees      | Trees      | Total      | Trees       | Net        | Trees     | Additional | Net        | Trees      | Net        | Additional | Net        |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
|                          | Planted    | Planted    | Trees      | Dead        |            | Planted   | Trees      |            | Trees      | Planted    | Trees      | Trees      |
|                          | 2012       | 2013       | Planted    | 2013        | 2013       | 2014      | Dead 2014  | 2014       | 2015       | 2015       | 2016       | 2016       |
| Brauer, Sheila and James | 242        | 144        | 386        | -16         | 370        |           | -64        | 306        | 150        | 456        | -55        | 401        |
| Brokaw, Greg             | 22         |            | 22         | -17         | 5          |           | -1         | 4          |            | 4          | 0          | 4          |
| Brokaw, Kevin            | 118        |            | 118        | -56         | 62         |           | -3         | 59         |            | 59         | -1         | 58         |
| City of Ellendale        | 31         |            | 31         | -22         | 9          |           | -1         | 8          | 20         | 28         | -7         | 21         |
| City of Oakes            | 30         |            | 30         | -30         | 0          |           | 0          | 0          |            | 0          |            | 0          |
| Forbes City Park         | 32         |            | 32         | -2          | 30         |           | 1          | 31         | 20         | 51         | -18        | 33         |
| Herman, Matt             | 1          |            | 1          | 0           | 1          |           | -1         | 0          |            | 0          |            | 0          |
| Monango City Park        | 32         |            | 32         | -16         | 16         |           | -6         | 10         |            | 10         |            | 10         |
| Morehead, Carol          | 254        |            | 254        | -77         | 177        | 64        | 0          | 241        |            | 241        | -18        | 223        |
| Webster, Mary            | 6          |            | 6          | -1          | 5          | 1         | 0          | 6          |            | 6          |            | 6          |
| Wishek Investment        | 44         |            | 44         | -19         | 25         |           | 0          | 25         |            | 25         | 1          | 26         |
| Wolf, LaVern             | 10         |            | 10         | 0           | 10         |           | 0          | 10         |            | 10         |            | 10         |
| Guelph Gym               | 0          | 8          | 8          |             | 8          |           | -8         | 0          |            | 0          |            | 0          |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>822</b> | <b>152</b> | <b>974</b> | <b>-256</b> | <b>718</b> | <b>65</b> | <b>-83</b> | <b>700</b> | <b>190</b> | <b>890</b> | <b>-98</b> | <b>792</b> |
| Survival Rate            |            |            |            |             | 74%        |           |            | 72%        |            | 91%        |            | 81%        |

Initial Planting 2012 by NRCS for MDU

Additional Trees Planted in 2013 to meet minimum number required of 974

1st inspection 2013

2nd inspection 2014

Landowners replaced trees in 2014

NRCS planted 190 trees in 2015 for MDU

NRCS inspected trees in 2016

NRCS will inspect trees in 2017

*Tree and shrub replacements shall be inspected once a year for three years, on or about the anniversary of the plantings, and, on or shortly before October 1 of each year, a report shall be submitted to the Commission documenting the condition of replacement planting and any woodlands work completed. If after three years from the anniversary of the plantings the survival rate is less than 75%, the Commission may order additional planting(s).*