



MONTANA-DAKOTA

UTILITIES CO.

A Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc.

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

July 27, 2010

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

Re: Case No. PU-10-____
Application for a Certificate of Public
Convenience & Necessity for a 230 kV
Transmission Line and Interconnecting
Substation

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., herewith files an original and seven (7) copies of an Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct approximately 30 miles of 230 kV electric transmission line and a 230 kV interconnection substation as network upgrades to Montana-Dakota's transmission system to allow the interconnection of enXco Development Corporation's (enXco) proposed 150 MW wind farm known as the Merricourt Wind Project.

Northern States Power Company has been issued a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Merricourt Wind Project in Case No. PU-08-910. Montana-Dakota has also filed a Letter of Intent file an Application for a Certificate of Corridor Compatibility and Route Permit for construction of the transmission line and interconnecting substation in Case No. PU-10-164.

Please refer all inquiries regarding this filing to:

Tamie A. Aberle
Pricing & Tariff Manager
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
400 North Fourth Street
Bismarck, ND 58501

Andrea L. Stomberg
Vice President Electric Supply
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
400 North Fourth Street
Bismarck, ND 58501


Also, please send copies of all written inquiries, correspondence and pleadings to:

Daniel S. Kuntz
Associate General Counsel
MDU Resources Group, Inc.
P.O. Box 5650
Bismarck, ND 58506-5650

Montana-Dakota respectfully requests that this filing be accepted as being in full compliance with the filing requirements of this Commission.

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
Pricing & Tariff Manager

Attachments
cc: Daniel S. Kuntz

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**

In the Matter of the Application of)
MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO., a)
Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc.)
for a Certificate of Public Convenience) Case No. PU-10-____
and Necessity for a 230 kV Transmission)
Line and Interconnecting Substation)
)

**APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE
OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY**

COMES NOW, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (Montana-Dakota or Applicant), a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., the Applicant in the above-entitled proceeding, and makes application pursuant to Chapter 49-03.1, NDCC, for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct approximately 30 miles of 230 kV electric transmission line and a 230 kV interconnection substation as network upgrades to Montana-Dakota's transmission system to allow the interconnection of enXco Development Corporation's (enXco) proposed 150 MW wind farm known as the Merricourt Wind Project to be located in McIntosh and Dickey Counties.

That Applicant's full name and post office address are:

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.,
a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc.,
400 North Fourth Street
Bismarck, North Dakota 58501

II.

That Applicant is a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation duly authorized to do business in the State of North Dakota as a foreign corporation, and that it is doing business in the State of North Dakota as a public utility

subject to the jurisdiction of and regulation by the North Dakota Public Service Commission (Commission) under Title 49, NDCC, as amended.

III.

That Applicant's Certificate of Incorporation and amendments thereto have been previously filed with the Commission under Case No. PU-08-710 and such Certificate and Amendments are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.

IV.

That this Application is being made pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 49-03.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, and the rules and regulations promulgated by the Public Service Commission of the State of North Dakota.

V.

That Applicant seeks approval to construct approximately 30 miles of 230 kV electric transmission line and an interconnection substation as transmission system network upgrades for purposes of interconnecting enXco's 150 MW wind farm to the electric grid through Montana-Dakota's transmission system pursuant to a Generator Interconnection Agreement (GIA) among Montana-Dakota, enXco, and the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator (Midwest ISO) dated April 27, 2010. The point of interconnection will occur, and the new substation will be built, on Montana-Dakota's existing Wishek-Ellendale 230 kV transmission line approximately 30 miles northwest of Montana-Dakota's existing Ellendale Junction Substation located west of Ellendale. The new transmission line will be built between the new substation and the Ellendale Junction Substation. The new substation and transmission line must be installed and in service by December 1, 2011 to meet enXco's schedule to have its wind

facilities in service by December 1, 2011. Montana-Dakota has filed a Letter of Intent to file an Application for a Certificate of Corridor Compatibility and Route Permit for construction of the transmission line and interconnecting substation in Case No. PU-10-164.

VI.

That the network upgrades for which Montana-Dakota seeks the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity were identified as needed in the system impact study commissioned by the Midwest ISO for the Merricourt Wind project.

VII.

That the cost of the required network upgrades will be allocated in accordance with the Midwest ISO's Tariff provisions for cost allocation policy in effect at the time the Generator Interconnection Agreement was executed; which results in 100 percent of the required network upgrade costs allocated to the Interconnecting Customer.

VIII.

The Affidavit of Andrea L. Stomberg in support of this Application is provided as Exhibit A.

IX.

That no other public utility will be affected by the ownership and operation of the proposed electric transmission line or interconnection substation.

X.

That Applicant is fit, willing and able to own and operate the proposed facilities.

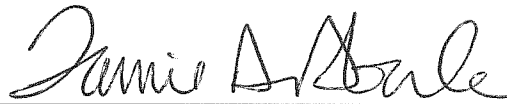
XI.

That Applicant believes it is in the public interest that Applicant be granted a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the authority it requests herein.

WHEREFORE, Applicant respectfully requests that the Commission:

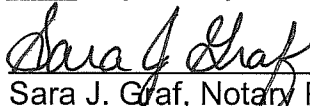
1. Give Notice of Opportunity to request a hearing to interested parties and, if no hearing is requested within twenty days, to waive the hearing in accordance with §49-03.1-05, NDCC;
2. Enter an Order and issue a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity authorizing the Applicant to construct electric transmission line and the new substation.
3. Grant such other relief as the Commission shall deem appropriate.

Dated this 27th day of July, 2010.

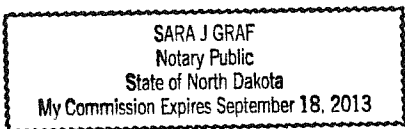


Tamie A. Aberle

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of July, 2010.



Sara J. Graf, Notary Public
Burleigh County, North Dakota
My Commission Expires: 09/18/2013



Of Counsel:

Daniel S. Kuntz
Associate General Counsel
MDU Resources Group, Inc.
P.O. Box 5650
Bismarck, ND 58506-5650

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

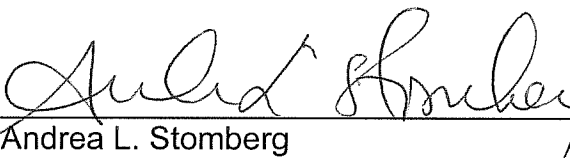
In the Matter of the Application of)
MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO., a)
Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., for a) Case No. PU-10-____
Certificate of Public Convenience and)
Necessity for a 230 kV Transmission Line)
and Interconnecting Substation)

AFFIDAVIT OF ANDREA L. STOMBERG

Andrea L. Stomberg, being first duly sworn, on oath deposes and says that she is
the Vice President Electric Supply of Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU
Resources Group, Inc., the Applicant herein, and attests to the following :

1. That public convenience and necessity will be served by Montana-Dakota's construction, ownership and operation of the 230 kV Transmission Line and Interconnecting Substation required to interconnect the enXco Development Corporation's (enXco) proposed 150 MW wind project referred to as the Merricourt Wind Project.
2. That Montana-Dakota is required to construct this network upgrade necessary to interconnect the wind project in accordance with the Generator Interconnection Agreement executed by Montana-Dakota, enXco and the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator dated April 27, 2010.
3. That Applicant is fit, willing and able to own and operate the proposed facilities.
4. That it is in the public interest that Applicant be granted a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity.

Dated this 27th day of July 2010.



Andrea L. Stomberg
Vice President Electric Supply

Of Counsel:
Daniel S. Kuntz
Associate General Counsel
MDU Resources Group, Inc.
P.O. Box 5650
Bismarck, ND 58506-5650