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**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

DEC 22 2010

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**Montana Dakota Utilities Company
Whiting Oil & Gas Corporation – Stark County
Public Convenience & Necessity**

Case No. PU-10-615

OAH File No. 20100420

NOTICE OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a prehearing conference on this matter will be held on December 28, 2010, beginning at 2:00 p.m. The prehearing conference will be a telephone conference call originating from the administrative law judge's (ALJ's) office. The ALJ at that time will place a telephone call to Mr. Kuntz at telephone number (701) 530-1016; Mr. Gruman at telephone number (701) 328-2421; and Mr. Ebeltoft at telephone number (701) 225-5297, unless otherwise notified.

The purpose of this prehearing conference is for counsel to discuss with the ALJ matters involved in this administrative action, including discovery, issues, witnesses, documentary evidence, anticipated motions, and other preliminary matters. Opportunity will be given counsel to discuss any of the problems confronting them. The prehearing conference will be digitally recorded, and will be conducted in an informal manner.

At the conclusion of the prehearing conference, the ALJ may issue a prehearing order reflecting any action taken at the prehearing conference and giving direction as to the procedures or issues for the hearing.

Attendance at the prehearing conference is necessary to result in an orderly and timely disposition of this matter. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Dated at Bismarck, North Dakota, this 21st day of December 2010.

State of North Dakota
Public Service Commission

By: 
Allen C. Hoberg
Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings
1707 North 9th Street
Bismarck, North Dakota 58501
Telephone: (701) 328-3260

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT NOTIFICATION: A party shall promptly notify the Public Service Commission in writing if the party has a disability which will require auxiliary aids or services at the prehearing conference so that the Commission can make appropriate accommodation prior to the prehearing conference. Any request for an interpreter at the prehearing conference must also be made in writing to the Public Service Commission. Any request for aids, services, or an interpreter should be as specific as possible about what is required by the party. Also, please send a copy of the notice or request to the administrative law judge.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the **NOTICE OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE** was mailed, regular mail, on the 21 day of December 2010, to:

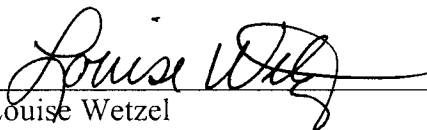
Daniel Kuntz
MDU Resources Group, Inc.
P.O. Box 5650
Bismarck, ND 58502-5650

Paul Ebeltoft
Ebeltoft Sickler
P.O. Box 1598
Dickinson, ND 58602-1598

and that a true and correct copy of the above document was mailed, inside mail, at the State Capitol on the 21 day of December 2010, to:

Mark Gruman
Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
Allen C. Hoberg, Administrative Law Judge



Louise Wetzel