



MONTANA-DAKOTA

UTILITIES CO.
A Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc.

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

ORIGINAL

January 21, 2011

Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
State Capitol – Department 408
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

RECEIVED

JAN 21 2011

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

RE: Case No. PU-10-615
Notice to Withdraw Application for
Permanent Authority to Serve Whiting Oil &
Gas Corporation near Belfield, North
Dakota

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (Montana Dakota), a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., herewith respectfully submits an original and seven copies of this Notice of its withdrawal of the Application for Permanent Authority to extend electric service to Whiting Oil & Gas Corporation (Whiting) at a location in the N $\frac{1}{2}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 17, Township 139N, Range 99W, Stark County near Belfield, North Dakota submitted on October 20, 2010.

Whiting has notified Montana-Dakota that they have decided to negotiate with Roughrider Electric Cooperative for electric service to a new natural gas compression and processing plant near Belfield based on their requirement to have electric service available by early fall 2011. Given the legal proceedings involved with this matter, Whiting was not willing to risk a delay in service because of the certificate Montana-Dakota requires to serve this location.

With this Notice of Withdrawal, Montana-Dakota requests the hearing scheduled for January 31, 2011 in this matter be vacated.

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

Cc: Attached Certificate of Service
Daniel Kuntz – MDU Resources Group, Inc.

13 PU-10-615 Filed: 1/21/2011 Pages: 2
Notice to withdraw Permanent Authority Application

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of)
MDU Resources Group, Inc.) Case No. PU-10-615
Whiting Oil & Gas Corporation- Stark County)
Public Convenience & Necessity)

Sara J. Graf certifies that on the 21st day of January, 2011 she served a true and correct copy of the attached **Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.'s Notice of Withdrawal of Application** by placing it in the United States mail with postage prepaid, addressed to the following individuals:

Executive Secretary – Original & 7 copies
North Dakota Public Service Commission
State Capitol – Department 408
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

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

Allan C. Hoberg
Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings
1707 North 9th Street
Bismarck, ND 58501

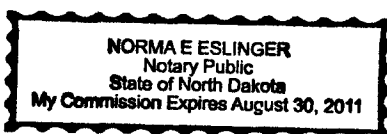
Clayton Hoffman
Roughrider Electric Cooperative, Inc.
PO Box 1038
Dickinson, ND 58602-1038

Mark Gruman
Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0408

Bert Bloom
Whiting Petroleum Corporation
1700 Broadway, Suite 2300
Denver, CO 80290-2300

Sara J. Graf
Sara J. Graf

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 21st day of January, 2011.



Norma E. Eslinger
Norma Eslinger, Notary Public
Burleigh County, North Dakota
My Commission Expires: 8-30-2011