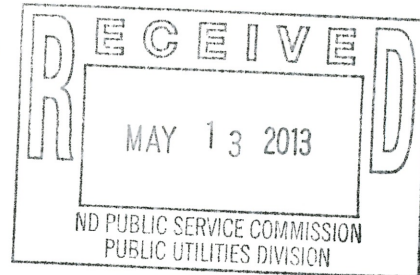


May 13, 2013



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

RE: Case No. PU-13-____
Application for an Order and Certificate to
extend Electric Service to Coyote Creek
Mining Company, L.L.C at the Coyote
Creek Mine near Beulah, North Dakota

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (Montana Dakota), a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., herewith respectfully submits an original and one copy of an Application for Authority to extend electric service to Coyote Creek Mining Company, L.L.C. at the locations identified on the attached Application at the Coyote Creek Mine near Beulah, North Dakota.

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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tamie A. Aberle".

Tamie A. Aberle
Director of Regulatory Affairs

Enclosures

Cc: Roughrider Electric Cooperative
Craig Lohstreter – Montana-Dakota Bismarck

**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 an Order and Certificate to) Case No. PU-13-____
extend Service to Coyote Creek Mining)
Company, L.L.C at the Coyote Creek)
Mine near Beulah, North Dakota)

APPLICATION FOR PERMANENT AUTHORITY

MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO., for its Application to the Public Service Commission of North Dakota, respectfully alleges:

I.

The full name of Applicant is Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., and the post office address of its principal office is 400 North Fourth Street, Bismarck, North Dakota 58501. Applicant is a public utility subject to the jurisdiction of and regulation by the Public Service Commission of North Dakota, under Title 49, N.D.C.C., as amended. MDU Resources Group, Inc.'s Certificate of Incorporation is incorporated herein by reference, and the Commission is requested to take official notice of the same.

II.

This Application is made pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 49-03, N.D.C.C., as amended, and the Rules of Practice and Procedure promulgated by the Commission.

III.

Montana-Dakota has been requested by Coyote Creek Mining Company, L.L.C. hereinafter referred to as "Customer," to provide electric service to the following two

locations:

- The Coyote Creek Mine to be located southwest of Beulah, ND in Townships 142N and 143N, Ranges 88W and 89W Mercer County, North Dakota, as such mine is now or hereafter permitted by the North Dakota Public Service Commission, but excluding the office/shop and dragline erection site to be located in SE1/4SE1/4 Section 30, Township 143N, Range 88W, Mercer County, North Dakota; and
- The coal conveyor/processing facilities to be constructed in S1/2 Section 10, Township 143N, Range 88W, Mercer County, North Dakota.

The locations are designated on the map attached hereto, marked Exhibit A, and made a part hereof by reference. Correspondence to the Customer should be directed to:

Justin Burggraff, President
Coyote Creek Mining Company, L.L.C.
2000 Schafer Street Suite D
Bismarck, North Dakota 58501

IV.

The service required by Customer at said location is three phase service; the length of the extension will be approximately 1 mile for the mining/dragline operation within the Coyote Creek Mine and approximately 1,800 feet to the coal conveyor/processing facilities. Roughrider Electric Cooperative (Roughrider) is an electric supplier also providing electric service within the general area of this Customer. Montana-Dakota's extension will not cross any railroad tracks, will not cross over Roughrider's lines and its extension length is shorter than Roughriders' to the most economical point of service. Roughrider was notified of the Company's extension and request for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. The location of the proposed service is within the economic

service area of Applicant and service will be extended under the provisions of the rules and regulations applicable thereto. It is Applicant's public utility obligation to furnish the requested service, and the public convenience and necessity requires, and will be served by, Applicant furnishing the requested service to this Customer at said location.

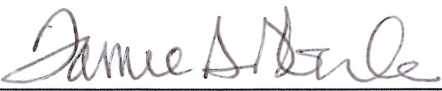
V.

Submitted as Exhibit B with this Application is an Appearance by Customer, in which Customer states to the Commission that they desire electric service from Applicant as a public utility subject to the jurisdiction of, and regulation by, this Commission. In said Appearance, Customer also waives the Notice of Opportunity for Hearing and Notice of Hearing upon this Application, or a hearing thereon, and requests the Commission to issue an Order and Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity authorizing this requested and needed electric service.

VI.

WHEREFORE, Applicant requests the entry of an Order and Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity authorizing Applicant to extend the requested and needed service to Customer.

MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO.
a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc.

By: 

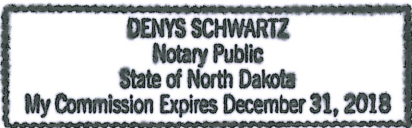
Tamie A. Aberle
Director of Regulatory Affairs

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA)
)ss.
COUNTY OF BURLEIGH)

Tamie A. Aberle, being first duly sworn, on oath deposes and says that she is the Director of Regulatory Affairs of Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., the Applicant herein, and makes this verification on its behalf; that she has read the foregoing Application and knows the contents thereof, and that the statements made and contained therein are true and correct to the best of her information, knowledge, and belief.

Tamie A. Aberle
Tamie A. Aberle

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 13th day of May 2013.



(S E A L)

Denys Schwartz
Denys Schwartz, Notary Public
Burleigh County, North Dakota
My Commission Expires: 12/31/2018

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.

Case No. _____

APPEARANCE BY CUSTOMER

Coyote Creek Mining Company, L.L.C.

hereinafter referred to as "Customer", hereby makes a voluntary appearance in this matter and states the following to the Public Service Commission ("Commission"):

That Customer desires electric service from Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. as a public utility subject to the jurisdiction of, and regulation by, the Commission, and has requested said public utility to provide Customer with electric service at the following locations:

- The Coyote Creek Mine to be located southwest of Beulah, ND in Townships 142N and 143N, Ranges 88W and 89W Mercer County, North Dakota, as such mine is now or hereafter permitted by the North Dakota Public Service Commission, but excluding the office/shop and dragline erection site to be located in SE1/4SE1/4 Section 30, Township 143N, Range 88W, Mercer County, North Dakota; and
- The coal conveyor/processing facilities to be constructed in S1/2 Section 10, Township 143N, Range 88W, Mercer County, North Dakota.

That Customer is in need of electric service at said locations for the purpose of coal mining and conveying of coal.

That Customer waives notice of opportunity for hearing and notice of hearing upon said Application, or a hearing thereon, and requests the Commission to issue an Order and Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity authorizing this requested and needed electric service, and that provisions be made therein authorizing extension of electric service.

That all the allegations of the Application herein are true and correct.

WHEREFORE, the undersigned, being the Customer involved herein, prays for the entry of an Order and Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity by the Commission, authorizing the Applicant to extend the requested and needed electric service to Customer at said location, subject to such appropriate and proper conditions to be appended to and made a part of such Certificate as the Commission may determine, and for such other and further relief as may be proper in the premises.

Customer:

Coyote Creek Mining Company, L.L.C.

By: *Justin Burggraff*
Justin Burggraff, President

Dated: May 8, 2013

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA)

County of Burleigh)

On this 8th day of May, in the year 2013, before me personally appeared Justin Burggraff, known to be to be the President of the limited liability company that is described in and that executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that such limited liability company executed the same.

Lynelle N. Kraft
Notary Public

