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

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

ORIGINAL

May 20, 2013

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

Re: Gas Meter Test Results

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (Montana-Dakota), a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., herewith submits the results of its gas meter testing program for the period April 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012.

Montana-Dakota's meter testing program consists of the following three categories:

1. New Test - New meters purchased were tested and found to be satisfactory prior to release. 100% of new meters were tested at the factory. Montana-Dakota tested 863 meters during the period April 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012 resulting in an average accuracy of 99.8% at an open test (100% of meter rating) and 99.9% accuracy at a check test (20% of meter rating).

2. Periodic Test – Meters with ratings of 630 cubic feet per hour or greater are tested at a periodic interval of at least once in eight years. 741 meters were tested during this review period resulting in an average accuracy of 99.8% at an open test (100% of meter rating) and 100.5% accuracy at a check test (20% of meter rating).

3. Random Test - All other active meters, with ratings of 630 cubic feet per hour or less, are assigned to lots and are randomly computer selected for test each year.

All damaged or non-registering meters are incapable of measuring gas accurately due to damaged indexes, mechanical malfunctions, or break(s) in the meter body. These damaged meters are either retired or given a complete overhaul and re-tested before being placed back in service.

Calculations of all lots in the Random Sample Program are made in accordance with the program detailed in Department of Defense Bulletin dated June 11, 1957, entitled

1 PU-13-221 Filed: 5/20/2013 Pages: 5
Gas meter testing results - April 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc.
Tamie Aberle

"Military Standard Sampling Procedure & Tables for Inspections by Variable for Percent Defective," as approved in Case No. I-5083.

The Random Test results are provided in Attachment A. Five groups that failed in the last test cycle were re-sampled. The results of this re-sampling are summarized below:

1. Meter Lot AS02- install date of 1976 through 1980: This group did not fail for a second time. The group will continue to be sample tested.

2. Meter Lot ER02- install date of 1986 through 1990: This group did not fail for a second time. The group will continue to be sample tested.

3. Meter Lot ER03- install date of 1986 through 1990: Montana-Dakota removed a sub-group of 338 meters from active service as noted in the last report. The meters remaining meters in Meter Lot ER03 installed in 1986-1990 were re-sampled and an improvement in the percentage defective improved but the results were not yet satisfactory. Another sub-group of 345 meters are being removed and recalibrated when appropriate with any remaining meters retired.

4. Meter Lot ER03- install date of 1991 through 1995: Montana-Dakota removed a sub-group of 536 meters from active service as noted in the last report. The meters remaining meters in Meter Lot ER03 installed in 1991-1995 were resampled and the group now falls within the allowable percentage defective.

5. Meter Lot S400A- install date of 1997 through 2001: This group failed for a second time. Therefore, the entire group of meters are being removed and recalibrated when appropriate with any remaining meters retired.

Two groups experienced first year failure. A description of the group, number of meters impacted and the plan for the groups are identified below:

1. Meter Lot AS02 (1228 meters), install date of 1991 through 1995: This is a first time failure for this group and this group was re-sampled for the 2012 random program.

2. Meter Lot ER02 (53 meters), install date of 1976 through 1980: This is a first time failure for this group and this group was re-sampled for the 2012 random program.

Please contact me if you have questions regarding the gas meter testing results.

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
Director of Regulatory Affairs

Attachment

MONTANA - DAKOTA UTILITIES CO.
NORTH DAKOTA - 2011 TEST YEAR
RANDOM SAMPLE GAS METER TEST RESULTS

Lot Type	Size	Install Year	Count	Sample Sample	[%]	Allowable [%]
415	415	96 - 00	42	7	5.13	30.50
		01 - 05	62	7	0.01	30.50
		06 - 10	2257	40	18.96	22.86
415 Total						
AC-250	AC250	85 - 89				
		90 - 94	45	7	0.20	30.50
		95 - 99	1838	40	1.69	22.86
		00 - 04	11490	75	1.82	21.11
		05 - 10	15127	75	0.51	21.11
AC-250 Total		2010	2064	40	<0.01	22.86
AL-425	AL425	91 - 95	14	3	<0.01	36.90
		96 - 00	109	10	0.19	27.57
		01 - 05	338	25	3.60	23.97
		06 - 10	293	20	<0.01	24.53
AL425 Total						
AS02	AL175	71 - 75				
	AL225	76 - 80	89	10	1.87	27.57
	AL250	81 - 85	7	3	11.46	36.90
		86 - 90	482	25	7.55	23.97
		91 - 95	1228	35	25.69	22.91
		96 - 00	1685	40	7.49	22.86
		01 - 05	1005	35	0.08	22.91
		06 - 10	324	25	0.08	23.97
AS02 Total						
ER01	175	91 - 95	13	3	<.01	36.90
		96 - 00	150	15	0.29	25.61
		01 - 05	206	20	<.01	24.53
		06 -10	17	4	24.67	36.90
ER01 Total						
ER02	250	76 - 80	53	7	38.93	30.50
	310	86 - 90	714	30	8.36	23.58
		91 - 95	4884	50	17.23	22.00
		96 - 00	5347	50	16.88	22.00
		01 - 05	1989	40	3.91	22.86
		06 - 10	206	20	6.69	24.53
ER02 Total						

MONTANA - DAKOTA UTILITIES CO.
NORTH DAKOTA - 2011 TEST YEAR
RANDOM SAMPLE GAS METER TEST RESULTS

Lot Type	Size	Install Year	Count	Sample Sample	[%]	Allowable [%]
ER03	R-200					
	R-275	86 - 90	1841	40	22.99	22.86
		91 - 95	3683	50	6.95	22.00
		96 - 00	7543	50	16.18	22.00
		01 - 05	9769	75	4.22	21.11
		06 - 10	4553	50	4.67	22.00
ER03 Total						
NL-250	NL-250	93 - 97	227	20	11.96	24.53
		98 - 02	137	15	1.04	25.61
		03 - 07	358	25	6.37	23.97
		08 - 10	150	15	7.66	25.61
NL-250 Total						
S250	S250	87 - 91	258	20	<0.01	24.53
		92 - 96	1005	35	12.39	22.91
		97 - 01	694	30	0.66	23.58
		02 - 06	1049	35	<0.01	22.91
		07 - 10	504	30	<0.01	23.58
S250 Total						
SL250	SL250	92 - 96	166	15	0.05	25.61
		97 - 01	211	20	0.27	24.53
		02 - 06	535	30	0.11	23.58
		07 - 10	263	20	0.10	24.53
SL250 Total						
S400	S400	97 - 01	11	3	16.96	33.99
		02 - 06	40	5	0.55	30.50
		07 - 10	37	5	<0.01	30.50
S400 Total						
S400A	S400A					
		97 - 01	49	7	41.41	30.50
		02 - 06	106	10	14.72	27.57
		07 - 10	64	7	21.99	30.50
S400A Total						