

# UPPER MISSOURI

## POWER COOPERATIVE

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

March 26, 2015

North Dakota Public Service Commission Hearing  
Teddy's Residential Suites  
113 9<sup>th</sup> Ave SE  
Watford City, ND 58854

**Re: Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Lonesome Creek Station Phase III Project – McKenzie County, Siting Application – Case No. PU-14-852**

Dear Commissioners Julie Fedorchak, Randy Christmann, and Brian P. Kalk,

I am here to offer support for the construction and completion of Phase III at Lonesome Creek Station in McKenzie County planned by Basin Electric Power Cooperative.

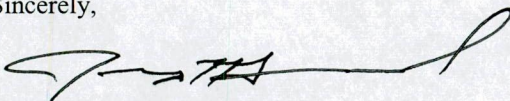
Upper Missouri Power Cooperative is Basin Electric's largest Class A Member System located in Sidney, MT. Upper Missouri is a transmission cooperative offering wholesale electricity from Basin Electric and the Western Area Power Administration to its ten member cooperatives in western North Dakota and eastern Montana. There are five cooperatives in North Dakota and five in Montana.

Our load forecasts have been adjusted to reflect our currently lower oil prices, and still we expect significant growth in electrical demand in northwestern North Dakota and northeastern Montana. In February of 2015, Upper Missouri achieved a new peak of 1,011 MW. Our new forecast projects growth of an additional 1,231 MW in the next twenty years. To meet this demand, we must continue to efficiently develop our transmission system and our power production. The addition of phase III of the Lonesome Creek Station, and the construction of the additional natural gas turbines associated with this project are an important piece of Basin's commitment to reliability in this region.

We carefully and continuously plan and assess our generation and transmission needs. It is important infrastructure additions and improvements are made to meet the demands of growth, as well as maintaining continued reliability to the residents, ranchers, and all of the industry already developed in our region. The incremental addition of generation, such as the addition of phase III of the Lonesome Creek station, protects the reliability of the electric system, while avoiding potential overbuild of assets.

Upper Missouri strongly supports the development and expeditious construction of Phase III at Lonesome Creek Station.

Sincerely,



Jeremy Mahowald  
Chief Operating Officer

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Exhibit 10

Upper Missouri G. & T. Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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