

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

<b>Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of</b>	)	
<b>MDU Resources Group, Inc.</b>	)	<b>Case No. PU-15-90</b>
<b>Natural Gas Service Rate Increase Application</b>	)	

**NOTICE OF COMMUNICATIONS**

In response to an inquiry made during the prehearing conference held on July 24, 2015, AARP hereby submits copies of communications that are in its possession, made by 62 Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. ("MDU") natural gas customers and/or North Dakota citizens.

Attached to this filing are copies of 186 communications<sup>1</sup> made between the dates of July 21, 2015 and July 24, 2015, by individual North Dakotans who had comments about the above-styled natural gas rate case pending at the North Dakota Public Service Commission (Commission), Case No. PU-15-90.

Although prompted by a notice sent by AARP to its members through an electronic system that suggested possible language, these attached comments are not official communications from AARP. The electronic system is a standard tool, used by AARP across a wide breadth of issues in jurisdictions nation-wide, as part of its ongoing effort to facilitate the ability of citizens to speak out for themselves on important governmental issues that affect their lives.

---

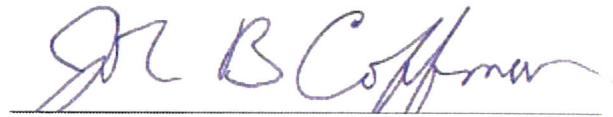
<sup>1</sup> 62 individuals sent an email to each of the three commissioners.

The attached letters were made by individuals who chose to express their own personal comments to the Commission about the pending case. AARP has continued to make an effort to inform and educate its members about this rate case and the organization's positions on pending issues in the case. In order to help customers understand these complex issues, AARP used this electronic system to suggest language for individuals to use, if they wished to make a comment; however, AARP ensured that individuals had the opportunity to review, edit, and offer their own personal opinions. An individual had to take affirmative action to send a message. Some individuals modified the suggested language. Individuals even had the ability to use the electronic system to convey messages to the Commission contrary to AARP's official positions.

While the messages were processed through an AARP system, the messages constitute the opinions of the individuals who sent them, and were not ex parte communications of AARP. AARP never intended to engage in ex-parte communications; in fact, AARP favors greater opportunities for open public comment and for greater transparency regarding public comments that are made to the Commission. However, in that spirit of transparency, and in an abundance of caution, AARP is supplying all of the messages in its possession that were sent through the electronic system between the dates of July 21, 2015 and July 24, 2015.

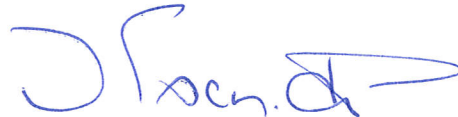
[Intentionally Blank. ]

Respectfully submitted,



---

John B. Coffman  
John B. Coffman, LLC  
871 Tuxedo Blvd.  
St. Louis, MO 63119-2044  
Ph: (573) 424-6779  
E-mail: [john@johncoffman.net](mailto:john@johncoffman.net)



---

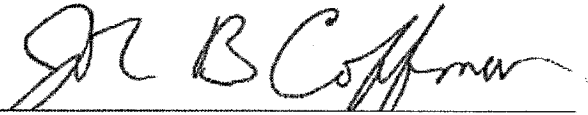
Dave Tschider, ID# 04224  
Attorney at Law  
Tschider & Smith  
418 E. Rosser Ave., Ste. 200  
Bismarck, ND 58501-4046  
Phone: (701) 258-4000  
[dtschider@tschider-smithlaw.com](mailto:dtschider@tschider-smithlaw.com)

Dated: July 28, 2015

Attachment: Letters

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing filing has been mailed, hand-delivered, emailed (to those parties that indicated during the prehearing conference that electronic service was acceptable) or otherwise delivered electronically to all recipients on the currently official service list in Case No. PU-15-90 at the North Dakota Public Service Commission, on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2015.

Handwritten signature of J. B. Coffman in cursive script, positioned above a horizontal line.

---