

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**Montana-Dakota Utilities / Roughrider Electric
City of Belfield
Service Area Agreement**

Case No. PU-17-228

**Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. a Division
of MDU Resources Group, Inc.
City of Belfield –Service Area Agreement
Public Convenience & Necessity**

Case No. PU-17-229

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY CERTIFIED AND REGULAR MAIL

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
COUNTY OF BURLEIGH

Geralyn R. Schmaltz deposes and says that:

she is over the age of 18 years and not a party to this action and, on the **17th day of August, 2017**, she deposited in the United States Mail, at Bismarck, North Dakota, **one** envelope with certified postage, return receipt requested, fully prepaid, securely sealed and containing a photocopy of:

- **Order on Electric Service Area Agreement and Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity**

And Original Of:

- **Certificate of Public Convenience & Necessity Certificate No. 5908**

The envelope was addressed as follows:

**Karl Liepitz
Associate General Counsel
MDU Resources Group Inc.
PO Box 5650
Bismarck, ND 58506-5560
Cert. No. 7015 0640 0006 6993 9348**

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Affidavit of Service, Cert. and Reg. Mail - Order

Public Service Commission

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Affidavit of Service
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August 17, 2017

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Affidavit of Service, Cert. and Reg. Mail - Order

Public Service Commission

Geralyn R. Schmaltz further deposes and says that on the **17th day of August, 2017**, she deposited in the United States Mail, Bismarck, North Dakota, **three** envelopes by regular mail, with postage fully prepaid, securely sealed, each containing a photocopy of the same.

The envelopes were addressed as follows:

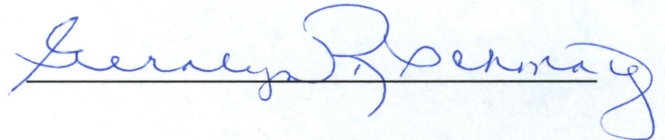
Don Franklund
Co-General Manager/CEO
Roughrider Electric Cooperative
2156 4th Avenue East
Dickinson, ND 58601

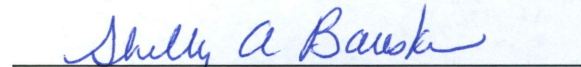
Tamie Aberle
Director of Regulatory Affairs
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.,
400 North 4th Street
Bismarck, ND 58501

ND Association of RECs
PO Box 727
Mandan, ND 58554-0727

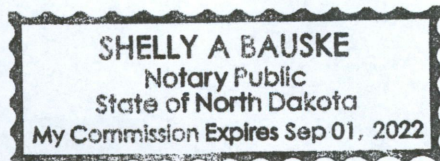
Each address shown is the respective addressee's last reasonably ascertainable post office address.

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this **17th day of August, 2017**.




Notary Public

SEAL



**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Montana-Dakota Utilities / Roughrider Electric
City of Belfield
Service Area Agreement**

Case No. PU-17-228

**Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. a Division of MDU
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Case No. PU-17-229

**ORDER ON ELECTRIC SERVICE AREA AGREEMENT AND CERTIFICATE OF
PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY**

August 16, 2017

Preliminary Statement

On May 25, 2017, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc. (MDU) and Roughrider Electric Cooperative (Roughrider) filed a joint application for approval of a Service Area Agreement to establish service areas and designate service locations to be served by MDU and Roughrider within and around the city of Belfield, North Dakota. MDU further requested issuance of a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing it to extend service to locations within the MDU service area set forth in the agreement.

On June 16, 2017, the Commission issued a Notice of Filing and Notice of Opportunity for Consolidated Hearing, which provided until July 31, 2017 for receiving written comments or hearing requests. No responses were received. The notice identified the issues to be considered in this proceeding as whether the Service Area Agreement complies with section 49-03-06 of the North Dakota Century Code, and whether the approval of the Service Area Agreement and resulting certificate issuance are compatible with the public interest.

On July 26, 2017, the Commission discussed the issues with Commission staff and the applicants at an informal hearing.

Discussion

The applicants contend that the agreement will:

1. Avoid misunderstanding and disagreement over areas to be served by each party,
2. Accomplish the legislative intent of N.D.C.C. section 49-03-06 to encourage harmony and operational efficiency among electric providers, promote safety, discourage unreasonable duplication of electric facilities, assure adequate and reliable electric service and provide antitrust immunity to the electric providers, and

3. Provide both parties with equitable participation in the provision of electric distribution service in areas within and around the city of Belfield during the term of the agreement.

Having considered this matter the Commission finds that the Service Area Agreement complies with N.D.C.C. section 49-03-06 and that approval of the Service Area Agreement and resulting certificate issuance are compatible with the public interest. Therefore, the Commission issues the following:

Order

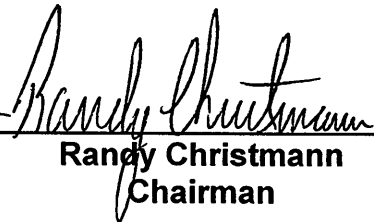
The Commission Orders:

1. The electric service area agreement filed jointly by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. and Roughrider Electric Cooperative is APPROVED.
2. Montana Dakota Utilities Co. is issued Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 5908 authorizing the provision of electric service to customers within the agreed upon service area around the city of Belfield.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Brian Kroshus
Commissioner



Randy Christmann
Chairman



Julie Fedorchak
Commissioner

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**

**Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
Certificate Number 5908**

This is to certify that public convenience and necessity require, and permission is granted for Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., to serve customers in and around the city of Belfield, North Dakota as established in the electric service area agreement approved by the Commission in Case No. PU-17-228.

This certificate is issued in accordance with the Order of this Commission dated August 16, 2017 in Case No. PU-17-229, and is subject to the conditions and limitations noted in the Order.

This certificate is conditioned upon Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc. securing the franchise or other authority of the proper municipal or other public authority for the exercise of these rights and privileges.

Bismarck, North Dakota, August 16, 2017.

ATTEST:

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Executive Secretary


Commissioner