



MONTANA-DAKOTA

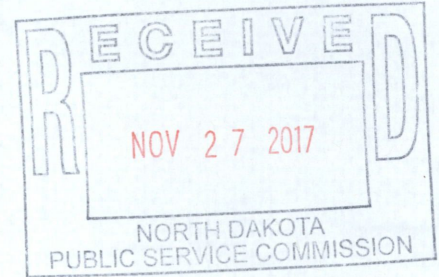
UTILITIES CO.

A Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc.

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

November 27, 2017

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



Re: Case No. PU-17-295

Enclosed please find Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.'s Application for Trade Secret Protection submitted pursuant to N.D. Administrative Code § 69-02-09-01. Also enclosed is a sealed envelope containing the Trade Secret Version of Response No. 3.2(B) Attachment L marked as "Trade Secret – PRIVATE", pursuant to N.D. Administrative Code § 69-02-09-02.

Please contact me if you have any questions at 701.222.7856.

Sincerely,

Tamie A. Aberle
Director of Regulatory Affairs

Attachments

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Application for Protection of Information - Data
Request No. 3.2(B)

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources
Group, Inc.
Karl Liepitz, Assistant General Counsel

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Application of)
MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO.,)
a Division of MDU Resources Group,) Case No. PU-17-295
Inc., for Authority to Establish)
Increased Rates for Natural Gas)
Service)



APPLICATION FOR TRADE SECRET PROTECTION

Pursuant to N.D. Admin. Code § 69-02-09-01, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., (Montana-Dakota) respectfully requests that the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) issue a trade secret protective order under N.D. Admin. Code § 69-02-09-04 and N.D.C.C. §44-04-24. The purpose of the requested protective order is to protect against public disclosure of critical infrastructure systems.

I.

The Commission Staff served Montana-Dakota with a discovery request in the present case seeking information the Company believes constitutes trade secret information. The Company requests trade secret protection for the following information:

- A) Information Request No. 3.2(B) requests information related to Montana-Dakota's Damage Prevention Program. The Damage Prevention Program is provided in the Gas Distribution Standards. The Gas Distribution Standards apply to all regulated gas distribution and transmission systems owned and operated by Montana-Dakota and Great Plains Natural Gas, which are critical infrastructure systems exempt from public disclosure in accordance with N.D.C.C. § 44-04-24. This is information that is not readily ascertainable by proper means by other persons.

II.

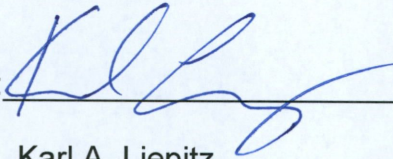
Montana-Dakota requests an Order protecting the information necessary to respond to Information Request No. 3.2(B) included herein and subsequent submittals of similar nature.

III.

In accordance with N.D. Admin. Code § 69-02-09-02, one copy of the trade secret material is provided to the ALJ in the enclosed sealed envelope labeled TRADE SECRET – PRIVATE.

Dated this 22nd day of November 2017.

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

By:  _____

Karl A. Liepitz
Assistant General Counsel
and Assistant Secretary
MDU Resources Group, Inc.