

Dakota Natural Gas, LLC

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June 28, 2018

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS AND EMAIL

Mr. Darrell Nitschke, Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 480
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

RE: Application for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
Dakota Natural Gas, LLC

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Enclosed herewith, please find an original and seven copies of both public and non-public versions of an Application for a Certificate of Public Need and Necessity from Dakota Natural Gas, LLC (DNG), submitted pursuant to N.D. Admin. Code § 49-03.1-01. The Application seeks such a Certificate to allow DNG to construct and operate the facilities described therein to provide natural gas service to parts of the Drayton, North Dakota community and to a large commercial customer located in the Drayton area.

Please note that there are two versions of the document; namely, one that is redacted for public viewing and one that includes a non-public attachment containing trade secret information. The trade secret version is so marked. DNG respectfully requests that the content of the corporate financial statements and notes be treated as protected data because the information was supplied by DNG; DNG and its entire family of related companies are privately held and their financial information is not publicly available; DNG and its entire family of related companies have taken reasonable efforts to maintain its secrecy by redacting it from public view and protecting private financial from non-organization individuals; and, DNG and its entire family of related companies derive independent economic value from its private financial information not being known by competitors, suppliers, and/or other members of the public who could obtain economic value from its use and whose use of the information could deleteriously impact DNG and its entire family of related companies.

DNG respectfully requests that the Commission consider the Application; that it give notice of an opportunity to request a hearing to interested parties and, if no hearing is requested within twenty days, that it waive the hearing in accordance with N.D.C.C. § 49-03.1-05; and, that it enter an Order approving DNG's Application and issue a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity authorizing DNG to construct and operate the natural gas distribution facilities at issue in the Application.

Dakota Natural Gas, LLC

June 28, 2018

Mr. D. Nitschke

Page 2

DNG recognizes that N.D. Admin. Code § 49-03.1-03 requires the Commission to impose an application fee; but, respectfully notes that, while the statute caps the fee, it gives the Commission discretionary authority over the fee amount by stating that, “[t]he commission shall impose an application fee *of up to* ten thousand dollars for an application under this chapter,” *emphasis added*. Since DNG is a new entity and since it proposes to bring natural gas service to a currently unserved area with an untested natural gas market, DNG respectfully requests that the Commission require a nominal application fee for the current application. An application fee at or near the maximum allowable fee would be unduly burdensome and would create a significant adverse impact on the economic feasibility of the proposed project.

Thank you for your assistance. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or concerns or if you require additional information. My direct dial number is (507) 665-8657 and my email address is kanderson@greatermngas.com.

Sincerely,

DAKOTA NATURAL GAS, LLC



Kristine A. Anderson
Corporate Attorney & Regulatory Affairs

Enclosures