



# Public Service Commission

## State of North Dakota

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June 17, 2020

Steve Kahl  
Executive Secretary  
ND Public Service Commission  
600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

*via Hand Delivery*

Re: Case No. PU-20-244  
Dakota Natural Gas, LLC  
Natural Gas Facilities – Traill County  
Tariff and Rates

Dear Mr. Kahl:

Enclosed is a copy of the Staff Response To Application For Protection Of Information to be filed in the above captioned case.

Best Regards,

Brian Johnson  
Legal Counsel

Enclosure

5 **PU-20-244** Filed: 6/17/2020 Pages: 3  
**Staff Response to Application for Protection of Information**

Public Service Commission

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**  
**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Dakota Natural Gas, LLC**  
**Natural Gas Facilities – Traill County**  
**Public Convenience & Necessity**

**Case No. PU-20-244**

**STAFF RESPONSE TO APPLICATION FOR PROTECTION OF INFORMATION**

On June 2, 2020, Dakota Natural Gas, LLC (DNG) filed an Application for Protection of Information to protect certain information in the captioned case.

The information for which DNG seeks protection includes the audited financial statements for 2019.

DNG's application states that this information is confidential financial information because it is information that has not been publicly disclosed and that if disclosed would cause substantive competitive injury. . . as provided in North Dakota Century Code Section 44-04-18.4(2)(b). Such information has been marked as TRADE SECRET in DNG's responses to data requests and in the pre-filed testimony submitted by DNG, or may arise or be discussed in the hearing or hearings in this matter.

The confidentiality of this information has been maintained by DNG. The information is not disclosed to the public or to persons other than employees or authorized agents who need to know the information to fulfill their responsibilities in connection with the subject matter of the information.

DNG has requested that this, and similar types of this information, be treated as trade secret in all of DNG's regulatory filings and other sharing of this information with governmental entities.

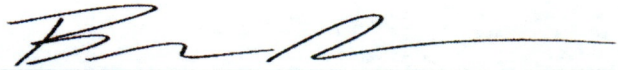
The persons or entities that would obtain economic value from disclosure or use of the information include investors and potential investors in DNG; entities with which

DNG currently conducts or may conduct business; and other utilities. Disclosure of the information sought to be protected would provide these persons and entities prior foreknowledge of information not readily available to the public.

Staff believes that DNG's application satisfies the requirements of the North Dakota Century Code for protection of the information, which is the subject of this request.

For reasons set forth above, Staff recommends that the Commission grant the application of NSP to protect certain information filed in the captioned case.

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020.



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