



UTILITIES CO.

A Subsidiary of MDU Resources Group, Inc.

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

March 25, 2021

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

Re: Mandan to Ellendale Transmission System Upgrade Project
Case No. PU-20-342

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. ("Montana-Dakota" or "Company") herewith electronically submits this request to complete construction of specific areas of the Mandan to Ellendale Transmission System Upgrade Project ("Project") route during the pendency of this case. The specific locations of the route subject to this request will not affect a known exclusion or avoidance area.

Montana-Dakota's Project involves replacing certain structures and reconductoring the line, which was constructed prior to April 9, 1975, on the existing centerline of previously acquired rights of way. The Company submitted a request for a siting exclusion certificate, as revised, on July 28, 2020. On December 1, 2020, the Company submitted an Exclusion and Avoidance Areas Evaluation Report ("Evaluation") that was compiled by SWCA Environmental Consultants on behalf of Montana-Dakota.

Montana-Dakota has construction crews available to perform the reconductor and pole replacement, as applicable, from structures 294 through 315. The construction crews have been working in the area, and a break in construction would cause the Company delays in the project as well as increased costs for the Project. The Evaluation does not identify any exclusion or avoidance areas for that section of the Project. Exhibit 1, pages 23 and 24 of the Evaluation are attached hereto for convenience. Exhibit 1 shows the proposed portion of the Project on which the Company is requesting to complete construction. This portion of the Project is expected to take approximately three weeks to complete. If the Company completes this portion of the Project prior to the issuance of a siting exclusion, an additional request will be made prior to beginning any additional construction activities.

In conclusion, Montana-Dakota respectfully requests approval to complete construction of a specific portion of the Project route that does not have any identified exclusion and avoidance areas. This will allow the Project to be completed in a timely manner at the lowest cost.

Please refer all inquiries regarding this filing to:

Travis R. Jacobson
Director of Regulatory Affairs
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
400 North Fourth Street
Bismarck, ND 58501
travis.jacobson@mdu.com

Robert Frank
Director of Transmission Engineering
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
400 North Fourth Street
Bismarck, ND 58501
robert.frank@mdu.com

Also, please send copies of all written inquiries, correspondence, and pleadings to:

Allison Mann
Attorney
MDU Resources Group, Inc.
P.O. Box 5650
Bismarck, ND 58506-5650
Karl.Liepitz@MDUResources.com

Sincerely,

Travis R. Jacobson
Director of Regulatory Affairs

Attachments

cc: Allison Mann
Robert Frank

Exhibit 1



HESKETT TO ELLENDALE
**Heskett to Ellendale
 230-kV Transmission
 Line Reconductoring
 Project**
 Map 13 of 32

- Pole Location
- Pole Replacement
- Existing Road
- - - 600-foot ROW Corridor
- Township/Range Boundary
- Section Boundary
- Transmission Line**
- TL089-1



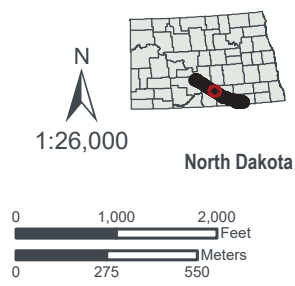
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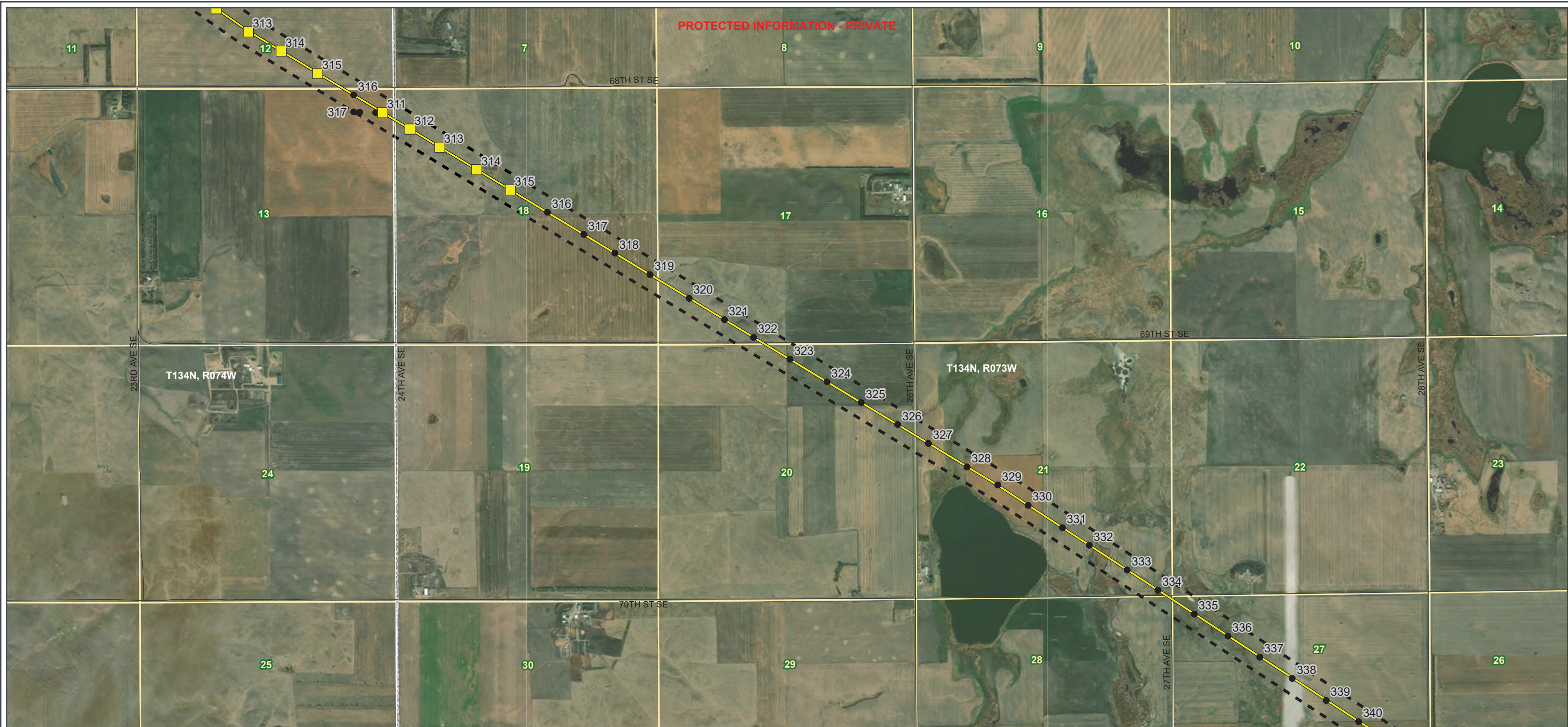
Emmons County, North Dakota

NAD 1983 StatePlane North Dakota South FIPS 3302 Feet
 99.940297°W 46.449776°N

Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,
 accessed November 2020

Updated: 11/17/2020
 Project No. 62896

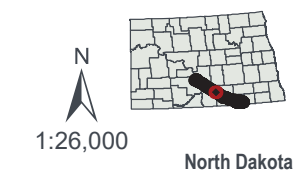




HESKETT TO ELLENDALE
**Heskett to Ellendale
 230-kV Transmission
 Line Reconductoring
 Project**
 Map 14 of 32

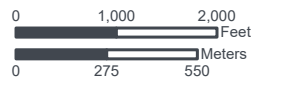
- Pole Location
- Pole Replacement
- Existing Road
- 600-foot ROW Corridor
- Township/Range Boundary
- Section Boundary
- Transmission Line**
- TL089-1

Emmons and Logan Counties, North Dakota
 NAD 1983 StatePlane North Dakota South FIPS 3302 Feet
 99.884936°W 46.412581°N



Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,
 accessed November 2020

Updated: 11/17/2020
 Project No. 62896



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