

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Public Service Commission
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
2020 Natural Gas Rate Increase Application**

Case No. PU-20-379

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 In., (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. § 44-04-18.4(1) and (2). The purpose of the requested protective order is to protect against public disclosure of trade secrets as defined by N.D.C.C. § 47-25.1-01(4) .

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 Data Request No. 2.1, as it requests information related to confidential reports received from outside sources. This information has independent economic value because it is not readily ascertainable by proper means by other persons. The confidential information is considered trade secret, as it provides an economic advantage to others.

II.


Montana-Dakota requests an Order protecting the information necessary to respond to Data Request No. 2.1 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 on the enclosed disc in its Excel spreadsheet format in the enclosed sealed envelope labeled TRADE SECRET – PRIVATE.

Dated this 14th day of October 2020.

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

By: 

Paul Sanderson

Dated today, October 14, 2020.

EVENSON SANDERSON PC
Attorneys for MDU
1100 College Drive, Suite 5
Bismarck, ND 58501
Telephone: 701-751-1243
psanderson@esattorneys.com

By: /s/ Paul Sanderson
Paul R. Sanderson (ID# 05830)