

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
Cost of Gas 2021  
Tariff Monthly Adjustments

Case No. PU-21-8

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY REGULAR MAIL

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
COUNTY OF BURLEIGH

**Geralyn R. Schmaltz** deposes and says that:

she is over the age of 18 years and not a party to this action and, on the **21st day of October 2021** she deposited in the United States Mail at Bismarck, North Dakota, **one** envelope by first class mail, fully prepaid, securely sealed each containing a photocopy of:

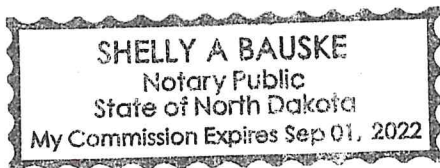
- **Order On Protection Of Information**

The envelope was addressed as follows:

Travis Jacobson  
Director of Regulatory Affairs  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
400 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Bismarck, ND 58501

Each address shown is the respective addressee's last reasonably ascertainable post office address.

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this **21st day of October 2021**.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shelly A. Bauske", written over a horizontal line.

*Shelly A Bauske*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

SEAL

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

**Montana Dakota Utilities Co.**  
**Cost of Gas 2021**  
**Tariff Monthly Adjustments**

**Case No. PU-21-08**

**ORDER ON PROTECTION OF INFORMATION**

**October 20, 2021**

Preliminary Statement

On January 12, 2021, Montana Dakota Utilities Co. filed an Application for Protection of Information to protect certain information in the captioned case.

On July 28, 2021, staff reviewed the request of the Company for protection of information.

Discussion

The information for which the Company seeks protection under N.D.C.C. 47-25.1-01(4), 44-04-18.4, and N.D. Admin. Code chapter 69-02-09-04 includes cost of gas information related to commodity pricing.

The confidentiality of this information has been maintained by the Company. 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, would derive economic value to competitors, and damage the bidding process which ultimately would hurt consumers.

The Company has requested that this, and similar types of this information, be treated as trade secret.

North Dakota Administrative Code section 69-02-09-03 provides "the commission staff shall examine the information and application, and file and serve a response that includes a recommendation on whether the information qualifies for protection."

The persons or entities that would obtain economic value are potential vendors and suppliers who may desire to bid to provide natural gas or natural gas services to MDU. In particular, potential suppliers would know what MDU has determined to be the cost range for certain components of its supply needs and consequently the cost range could potentially serve as a floor, below which no bidder would submit a bid price. Such a result could be harmful for MDU's customers.

Staff believes that the application satisfies the requirements of the law, which allows the Commission to grant protection of information in this proceeding.

The Commission concludes the Company's application satisfies the requirements of the North Dakota Century Code for protection of the information, which is the subject of this request.

### Order

The Commission orders the January 12, 2021, application of Montana Dakota Utilities Co. for protection of information is GRANTED.

### PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Randy Christmann  
Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Julie Fedorchak  
Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Kroshus  
Commissioner