



Public Service Commission State of North Dakota

COMMISSIONERS

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March 8, 2021

Travis R. Jacobson
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
400 N 4th St
Bismarck, ND 58501

Re: Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. – Natural Gas – **PU-21-101** - Extreme cold weather event investigation

Travis:

On March 3, 2021, the Commission initiated an Investigation into the impacts and rate treatment for public utility customers related to the extreme weather events of February 5-18, 2021. Please provide a filing to the Commission that informs the following details related to the events.

- 1.1 Please provide forecasted February 2021 gas usage and cost estimates by customer class used to derive the Feb 2021 Cost of Gas (COG) rate.
- 1.2 Please provide the actual February 2021 gas usage and cost actuals by customer class.
- 1.3 What is the total North Dakota difference between the forecast and actual natural gas cost/revenues for February 2021?
- 1.4 What amount of gas was forecasted to be used from storage during February? What actual amount of gas was used from storage?
- 1.5 What amount of gas is procured using contract prices versus spot pricing? Is the contracted percentage the same year to year?
- 1.6 How much of the gas usage during the events was used by customers on an interruptible rate?
- 1.7 How much interruptible customer gas usage was curtailed?
- 1.8 How much interruptible customer gas usage could have been curtailed during the events?

- 1.9 What does your tariff or policy dictate regarding interruptible customers when gas supply is available, but the gas price is extreme?
- 1.10 What mechanism would normally be used to recoup the under collection of natural gas costs from question 1.3?
- 1.11 What timeframe would the under collection normally be spread over? What return amount does the company earn on the under collected balance?
- 1.12 Are there alternatives to the mechanism and timeframe to recoup the under collected balance that would provide less rate shock to North Dakota ratepayers?

Sincerely,



Victor Schock
Public Utilities Division
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