

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

January 31, 2022

Executive Secretary  
North Dakota Public Service Commission  
600 East Boulevard Ave. Department 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Re: Case No. PU-21-151  
Combined Application for Corridor  
Certificate and Route Permit

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. herewith submits the Preconstruction Meeting Minutes that was held on January 14, 2022 on the Combined Application for a Certificate of Corridor Compatibility and Route Permit for the Mandan Reroute Project in the above reference case.

Please contact me at 701.222.7855 or [travis.jacobson@mdu.com](mailto:travis.jacobson@mdu.com) if you have questions.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Travis R. Jacobson*

Travis R. Jacobson  
Director of Regulatory Affairs

**Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.**  
**230 kV Transmission Line – Morton County**  
**Preconstruction Conference – Meeting Minutes**

The preconstruction conference (Item 7) was held at 10 a.m. on January 14, 2022 by Microsoft Teams conference call.

**A. ATTENDANCE**

Adam Renfandt – North Dakota Public Service Commission  
Andrew Unbehaun – Barr Engineering Co.  
Dan Albrecht – Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
Matt Bieber – Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
Robert Frank – Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
Travis Jacobson – Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
Andy McDonald – Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
Jon Wahlgren – Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
Tim Hudgins – Rocky Mountain Contractors, Inc.  
Jase Anderson – High Voltage, Inc.

Robert Frank introduced those in attendance and their roles within the project.

**B. FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER**

Adam Renfandt provided an overview of the Commission Siting Order highlighting the important items related to construction of the facilities.

**C. CERTIFICATION RELATING TO ORDER PROVISIONS**

Adam Renfandt discussed parts of the Certification Relating to Order Provisions – highlighting the important items related to construction of the facilities.

1. Item 3 – All necessary permits and licenses shall be provided to the Commission. See Attachment A for a copy of the Morton County road permit. No other permits were required.
2. Item 9 – Topsoil removal and the requirement of having a third-party inspector present, Andrew Unbehaun of Barr Engineering is the inspector for this project. Discussed the method to remove the topsoil and the method to keep segregated from the subsoil. The method proposed is to break up the topsoil

- using a truck mounted auger, then collect the topsoil with a loader and remove to a safe location away from the pole location.
3. Item 10 – Montana-Dakota shall inform the Commission and the construction inspector when construction will occur. Construction start was coordinated with Andrew Unbehaun and began the morning of January 21, 2022. One topsoil removal inspection will occur January 21, 2022. Monthly construction status reports will be submitted to the Commission and the construction inspector, including any injuries sustained by the construction contractor. Monthly reports shall be filed in the Commission’s document management system. The monthly reports will provide a status of the project with a percentage complete included, along with any injuries or significant events.
  4. Item 11 – Topsoil segregation and protection was discussed with engineers from Montana-Dakota suggesting the method to remove the topsoil and keep away from construction area. In a follow up to the preconstruction conference, Adam called Travis to highlight the frozen soil requirement and a request for Commission approval was prepared and was filed on January 14, 2022.
  5. Item 13 and 14 – Discussed the proper location to store work equipment and the need to stop excavation if any cultural site is discovered during construction, none is expected.
  6. Item 17 and 19 – Reclamation recommendations were discussed and the agricultural field where structures 1 through 5 are located will not be reclaimed as the property lease holder will plant row crops in the spring of 2022.
  7. Item 23 – Discussed the need to document and notify the Commission of any tree or shrub removal. This will require mitigating the tree removal according to the Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specifications. Montana-Dakota expects to remove a minimal amount of vegetation along the right of way. Removal of trees was discussed prior to filing the siting application, but not anticipated so a Tree and Shrub Mitigation Plan was not included in the Application.
  8. Item 27 – Notification of construction with contact information of Montana-Dakota representative shall be provided to all affected landowners. The Mandan Refinery was notified by letter and phone call. See Attachment B for a copy of the letter sent to the Mandan Refinery.
  9. Item 28 – Montana-Dakota representative responsible for resolving landowner issues is Tom Ressler. He can be reached by phone: (701) 222-7688 or email: [Thomas.ressler@mdu.com](mailto:Thomas.ressler@mdu.com).
  10. Item 30 – Montana-Dakota agrees to notify the Commission as soon as possible of any extraordinary events and injuries that occur during construction.
  11. Item 33 – Montana-Dakota will provide electronic and paper copies of the as-built transmission facilities within 3 months of construction completion.

12. Item 34 – One Call (811) will be used and the Commission will notify the Commission of any damage to underground facilities.
13. Items 38, 39, 40, and 41 – Discussed the requirements for route adjustments that may need to occur during construction and how to file with the Commission. Montana-Dakota expects no route adjustments. In the event contact with the Company, Robert Frank can be reached by phone at (701) 222-7846 or email: [Robert.Frank@mdu.com](mailto:Robert.Frank@mdu.com).

#### D. ADJOURN

Adam Renfandt called for any additional questions and to confirm everyone on the call had reviewed the order and was ready to proceed.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

COPY

PERMIT NO. 04-20-21

MORTON COUNTY UTILITY OCCUPANCY APPLICATION AND PERMIT FORM

THE FOLLOWING APPLICANT IS HEREBY GRANTED PERMISSION TO INSTALL AND MAINTAIN THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED FACILITY ON HIGHWAY RIGHT-OF-WAY AS SHOWN ON THE PLANS ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART OF HEREOF:

OWNER OF FACILITY MDU PHONE NUMBER 701 222 7756 ADDRESS 400 N 4th ST
LOCATION OF FACILITY MANDAN, ND QTR 10, 15 SEC. 10, 15 TWP 139N RGE. 81 W
TYPE OF FACILITY Transmission Line - Overhead

PERMIT FEE \$50.00 Pd CHK # 027469

INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE: Installation and maintenance of said facilities on highway right-of-way shall conform to the following provisions:

- (1) Upon construction, maintenance, relocation or removal of said facilities, any right-of-way scars shall be removed and the disturbed areas restored to original condition...
Note: The aforementioned conditions shall be met within 60 days of completion of the work requested.
(2) All construction and maintenance work must be signed properly in accordance with the latest manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Installation and maintenance of said facilities on highway right-of-way shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

- (1) Installation, maintenance, relocation, and removal of said facilities on highway right-of-way shall be done in a manner satisfactory to, and subject to supervision by the County Road Superintendent for the County Highway Department.
(2) Morton County shall not be liable for damage to said facilities resulting from reconstruction or maintenance of the highway.
(3) Applicant shall repair or replace highway structures and appurtenances, and any existing facilities located on, over and under highway right-of-way, which may be damaged as a result of the installation and maintenance of said facilities on highway right-of-way.
(4) Applicant shall promptly remove said facilities from highway right-of-way or from within a distance of 75 feet from center of road or section line when requested to do so by the County.
(5) Applicant shall furnish a map showing the location of the utility as requested by the permit.
(6) No construction shall be permitted across paved roadway. All facilities must be bored.

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS FOR APPROVAL:

ENGINEER
APPLICANT TITLE

N/A
FIELD INSPECTION DATE

ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS:
APPLICANT DATE 5/12/21

APPROVAL:
COUNTY ROAD SUPERINTENDENT DATE 5/25/2021
Engineer



UTILITIES CO.

A Subsidiary of MDU Resources Group, Inc.

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

Marathon Petroleum  
Attn: Real Estate-Natalie Segrist  
539 S. Main Street  
Findlay, OH 45840

Date: January 14, 2022

Dear Landowner:

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. will start construction of a 230 kV Transmission line on the Mandan Refinery property the week of Jan 17<sup>th</sup>. The contractors will start with some snow removal and will be placing poles later in the week.

If there are any questions about the project or for damages when the project is finished, you can reach out to me to answer any questions. My office number is 701-222-7688. I am in the office most days of the week 8 am to 5 pm. If I am out of the office, please leave a message and I will return your call. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

**Tom Ressler**

Tom Ressler  
Land Agent  
[Thomas.Ressler@mdu.com](mailto:Thomas.Ressler@mdu.com)  
Montana Dakota-Utilities