

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

Julie Fedorchak  
Randy Christmann  
Brian Kroshus

Chair  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

**In the Matter of the Application of  
Dakota Natural Gas, LLC for a  
Certificate of Public Convenience  
and Necessity to Construct and  
Operate a Natural Gas Distribution  
Line to Serve the City of Portland,  
North Dakota**

**APPLICATION FOR TRADE  
SECRET PROTECTION FOR  
CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC  
CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY**

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Dakota Natural Gas, LLC (DNG), respectfully requests that the North Dakota Public Service Commission (Commission) grant Trade Secret Protection of Information for certain information contained in its Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity pursuant to ND. Admin. Code 69-02-09-01.

**DISCUSSION**

DNG's Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity has certain complete, audited financial statements for 2020 in documents appended thereto as Attachments C and D. DNG asserts that the information contained in the appended documents constitutes trade secret information within the meaning of N.D.C.C. Ch. 47-25.1-01(4). DNG respectfully requests that the contents of the appended financial statements and notes be treated as protected data because the information was supplied by DNG; DNG and the entire GMS family of companies are privately held and their financial information is not publicly available; DNG and the entire family of GMS companies have taken reasonable efforts to maintain its secrecy by redacting it from public view and protecting private financial from non-organization individuals; and, DNG and the GMS family of companies derive independent economic value from its private financial information not being known by competitors, suppliers, and/or other members of the public who could obtain economic value from its use and whose use of the information could deleteriously impact DNG and the GMS family of companies, both in terms of financial and competitive impacts, if the information is misappropriated.

**REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION**

DNG respectfully requests that the financial statements and notes appended to its Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity as Attachments C and D be afforded protection from public view because the documents constitute trade secret information.

Dated: November 4, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

s/

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