

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
North Dakota Soybean Processors, Inc., Cass County
Public Convenience & Necessity**

Case No. PU-22-362

ORDER

December 14, 2022

Preliminary Statement

On September 7, 2022, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU) filed an application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct and operate a natural gas distribution system to serve North Dakota Soybean Processors, Inc.'s (NDSP) facility near Casselton, North Dakota, in Cass County.

On September 21, 2022, the North Dakota Public Service Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing providing until November 4, 2022, for receiving written comments or requests for hearing. No response or request for hearing was received. The notice identified the following issues to be considered:

1. Is there a need for the service?
2. Is MDU technically, financially and managerially fit and able to provide the service?
3. What is the effect on other public utilities providing similar service?
4. Is the proposed service adequate?

Discussion

MDU is a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation, authorized to provide public utility service in North Dakota under the regulatory jurisdiction of the Commission. MDU will provide natural gas service to NDSP's facility near Casselton, North Dakota, in Cass County.

MDU proposes to construct and operate a distribution system for NDSP via a new tap on the WBI Energy transmission line, a new Town Border Station (TBS), and approximately 10,700 feet of six-inch diameter steel distribution line in Section 34, Township 140 North, Range 52 West in Cass County, North Dakota.

MDU states the cost of the extension and associated facilities is approximately \$3,199,038.

The proposed distribution system will serve NDSP's facility near Casselton, North Dakota. The NDSP facility is located in an area not currently served with natural gas.

Xcel Energy currently serves the nearby city of Casselton, North Dakota with natural gas and has not filed comments nor objections to MDU's application.

Based on the record and having received no objections, the Commission finds:

1. There is a need for the service.
2. MDU is technically, financially and managerially fit and able to provide natural gas service in North Dakota.
3. There is no effect on other public utilities providing similar service.
4. The proposed service is adequate.
5. It is in the public interest that the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity be issued to provide natural gas service to serve North Dakota Soybean Processors, Inc.'s facility near Casselton, North Dakota.

Order

The Commission orders:

1. MDU's application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct and operate a natural gas distribution system to serve North Dakota Soybean Processors, Inc.'s facility near Casselton, North Dakota is granted.
2. Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 5971 is issued to MDU to construct and operate a natural gas distribution system to serve North Dakota Soybean Processors, Inc.'s facility near Casselton, North Dakota.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Randy Christmann Julie Fedorchak Sheri Haugen-Hoffart
Commissioner Chair Commissioner

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

Certificate Number 5971

This is to certify that public convenience and necessity require, and permission is granted for Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., to construct and operate a natural gas distribution system to serve North Dakota Soybean Processors, Inc.'s facility near Casselton, North Dakota.

This certificate is issued in accordance with the Order of this Commission dated December 14, 2022 in Case No. PU-22-362, and is subject to the conditions and limitations noted in the Order.

This certificate is conditioned upon Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. securing the franchise or other authority of the proper municipal or other public authority for the exercise of these rights and privileges.

Bismarck, North Dakota, December 14, 2022.

ATTEST:

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Executive Secretary


Commissioner