

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

**Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
Fuel Clause Adjustment Waiver  
Approval**

**Case No. PU-23-330**

**ORDER**

**October 24, 2023**

**Preliminary Statement**

On October 20, 2023, the Commission received a request from Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU) for a temporary waiver from its Fuel and Purchased Power Adjustment – Rate 58 (Rate 58) tariff provision which requires MDU to file a rate adjustment when the amount of the change in such adjustment is at least 0.001 cents per kilowatt hour (Kwh).

**Discussion**

MDU's waiver request is the result of significant excess power costs it has experienced in the months of August, September, and October. In the absence of a waiver, MDU's Rate 58 would increase from the October 2023 rate of \$0.02886 per Kwh to \$0.042 per Kwh for secondary service. MDU's proposal would forego the Rate 58 adjustment necessitated by the tariff for the period of November 1, 2023, through March 31, 2024. This would allow MDU to recover the excess power costs in its annual true up effective April 1, 2024. This annual true up is collected over a 12-month period, thereby reducing the overall rate impact.

Pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 49-05-05, no tariff change can be made without a notice of at least thirty days to the Commission. The Commission may allow changes upon less than thirty days' notice if good cause is shown.

The Commission finds that granting the waiver is in the public interest as it will mitigate the rate impact to MDU customers. However, the Commission believes that the under collected balance should be monitored by MDU and Staff monthly to ensure the excess power costs do not continue throughout the upcoming heating season.

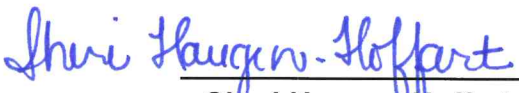
The Commission finds good cause to allow the temporary tariff waiver upon less than thirty days' notice.

**Order**

The Commission Orders:

1. Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.'s request for a temporary waiver from its Fuel and Purchased Power Adjustment tariff is granted until March 31, 2024.
2. Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. shall file in this docket a monthly update of the under collected balance.

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**



**Sheri Haugen-Hoffart**  
**Commissioner**



**Randy Christmann**  
**Chair**



**Julie Fedorchak**  
**Commissioner**