



A Subsidiary of MDU Resources Group, Inc.

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October 25, 2023

Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
State Capitol Building
Bismarck, ND 58505

Re: Cost of Gas Adjustment
(COG) Rate 88 and Rate 99
Case No. PU-24-007

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (Montana-Dakota) herewith electronically submits its Application for Trade Secret Protection to renew the request of confidential treatment of portions of the cost of gas calculation for calendar year 2024. Montana-Dakota has been providing this information in accordance with the most recent Order on Trade Secret Protection issued on March 30, 2022 in Case No. PU-22-008. In addition, Montana-Dakota filed for similar treatment on October 31, 2022 in Case No. PU-23-007.

Montana-Dakota respectfully requests this electronic filing be accepted as being in full compliance with the filing requirements of this Commission.

Please contact me at 701.222.7855 or travis.jacobson@mdu.com with any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Travis R. Jacobson

Travis R. Jacobson
Director of Regulatory Affairs

Attachment
cc: A. Waldon

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of MONTANA-DAKOTA)
UTILITIES CO. Cost of Gas Updates) Case No. PU-24-007
Filed Pursuant to Rate 88)

APPLICATION FOR TRADE SECRET PROTECTION

Pursuant to N.D. Admin. Code § 69-02-09-01, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (Montana-Dakota) respectfully requests that the Commission issue a trade secret protective order under N.D. Admin. Code § 69-02-09-04 and N.D. Cent. Code §44-04-18.4(1 & 2). The purpose of the requested protective order is to protect against public disclosure of trade secrets as defined by N.D. Cent. Code § 47-25.1-01(4).

I.

The information for which the Company seeks trade secret protection is a portion of the Cost of Gas filing that contains confidential information on gas commodity pricing.

The following components are identified as confidential:

- Demand charge monthly delivery quantities excluding FT-1 MDDQ
- Demand charge amounts excluding FT-1 MDDQ
- Commodity charge monthly delivery quantities excluding the Gas Commodity – System quantity
- Commodity charge amounts
- Fuel – Transp. WBI rate
- Fuel – Transp. NB rate
- Fuel – Transp. NW rate
- Fuel – Storage rate
- Gas Commodity - System rate

The information contains confidential pricing information relating to Montana-Dakota's natural gas purchase practices in a competitive environment and should not be

disclosed or released to the public and that, if the information were released, competitors would be able to benefit from the information to the detriment of the Company and its customers. The confidential information is considered trade secret, as it provides an economic advantage in Montana-Dakota's gas contract negotiations. The Cost of Gas is subject to change each month. Montana-Dakota requests an Order protecting the information provided in its Cost of Gas submittals in 2024.

II.

The above-referenced information is not publicly available and is confidential business information prepared specifically for Montana-Dakota. Vendors and competitors would have an opportunity to obtain economic value from disclosure or use of the information, to the detriment of Montana-Dakota. If publicly available, vendors could use the information to their advantage in contract negotiations, while competitors could use the information to leverage their positions in the marketplace to Montana-Dakota's detriment.

In accordance with N.D. Admin. Code § 69-02-09-02, one copy of the trade secret material is provided in the enclosed sealed envelope labeled PROTECTED INFORMATION – PRIVATE. Montana-Dakota will submit this information as PROTECTED INFORMATION – PRIVATE in Cost of Gas Adjustment filings submitted to the North Dakota Public Service Commission.

Dated this 25th day of October 2023.

MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO.

By: /s/ *Travis R. Jacobson*

Travis R. Jacobson
Director of Regulatory Affairs