

Crockford, Konrad S.

From: Crockford, Konrad S.
Sent: Thursday, September 11, 2025 4:30 PM
To: Schoepp, Michael
Cc: Pingel, Brent
Subject: RE: MDU complaint
Attachments: AML MDU Locate Memo 01-02-2025.pdf

Mike & Brent,

Attached is a report that a PSC Abandon Mine Lands (AML) construction inspector put together documenting the one-call issue identified in the complaint. Additionally, it looks like the relevant one-call tickets are 24172081 and 24172080.

Would you be able to have a response to me no later than 09-26-2025?

Konrad Crockford
Director, Compliance Division

*Weights & Measures • Railroad Safety • Pipeline Safety
Damage Prevention & Enforcement • Risk Management*

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From: Schoepp, Michael <Michael.Schoepp@mdu.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 28, 2025 1:51 PM
To: Crockford, Konrad S. <kcrockford@nd.gov>
Cc: Pingel, Brent <Brent.Pingel@mdu.com>
Subject: MDU complaint

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Good afternoon Konrad,

I would like to set up a virtual meeting next week to discuss the attached complaint. We have ticket data. I think it would be better to meet and discuss rather than sending a written response.

Brent and I are open 8-10am Wednesday, Thursday and Friday next week. If those days don't work, propose a time and we will try and accommodate.

thanks

Mike Schoepp

Director of Ops Programs, Emergency Mgmt & Physical Security
MDU Utility Group
400 N 4th Street, Bismarck, ND 58501
701-222-7923

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Abandoned Mine Lands Division

Memorandum

TO: File

From: Scott Besmer

Date: January 2, 2025

Subject: New Salem Exploratory Drilling Project

On December 13th, 2024, I traveled to New Salem ND. I was going to look over the utility locations for a drilling project for the PSC. I took photos of the pin flags and paint marks.



Figure 1 Near the intersection of Hwy 10 (road in picture) and N 10Th St. No MDU pin flags or paint marks.



Figure 2 Standing on Hwy 10 looking to the southeast back towards N 10th St. Here MDU was located (yellow pin flags) Shown in the red polygons.



Figure 3 Looking East towards N 10th St. Notice no yellow pin flags or paint markings.

On December 26th, 2024, the contractor was asked if all utilities had been cleared or marked. This was confirmed. The drilling contractor began drilling one block west of the intersection of Hwy 10 and N10th St. drilling every ten feet towards N 10th St. To the East.



Figure 4 Looking West from N 10th St. Notice no yellow pin flags or paint.



Figure 5 The crew drilling the morning at approximately 9:00 am.

Around 12:30 pm on the 30th ELM (line location contractor) showed up to refresh previous location marks for MDU. They began where we were already drilling. A 4" plastic gas main was located within what appeared to be directly underneath our previously drilled holes.



Figure 6 Yellow paint marks and pin flag showing the location of MDU's 4" plastic gas main.

The contractor had been drilling down the side of Hwy 10 for approximately 4 hours when ELM marked this gas main. In a conversation with the ELM and the contractor, ELM had mentioned that this area was never located by him. Whether this meant himself or his company is not known.



Figure 7 Corner of Hwy 10 and N 10th St. facing East.



Figure 8 This how a service line take off is marked. The red circle is the location of the tap, and the red arrow is the direction of the gas service line to the resident. The outer black circle is where the drill hole was drilled.



Figure 9 Residential service lines were marked right where two drill holes are located. The top one is Fig 8.