

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.	)	Case No. PU-26-236
APLD BIS-01-Temp Service Switch Yard –	)	
Center, ND	)	
Public Convenience & Necessity	)	
	)	
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.	)	Case No. PU-26-219
APLD Bis-01 Temporary Construction Load –	)	
Center, ND	)	
Public Convenience & Necessity	)	

DECLARATION OF REBECCA A. KERN

I, Rebecca A. Kern declare:

1. I am Vice President of Resource Planning and Rates at Basin Electric Power Cooperative (“Basin Electric”) and have worked at Basin Electric for twenty-three years. Throughout my tenure, I have held positions involving wholesale power supply planning, resource adequacy, transmission service planning as a transmission customer, wholesale energy markets, rate design, large-load service issues, and member service matters.
2. I have personal knowledge of the matters contained in this declaration.
3. This declaration is in support of Roughrider Electric Cooperative’s (“Roughrider”) Protest and Request for Hearing in the above referenced docket.
4. In my current position as Vice President of Resource Planning and Rates, I am familiar with Basin Electric's resource planning processes, generation and transmission system capabilities, wholesale rate structures, load interconnection processes, and Basin Electric’s Large Load Commercial Program. My responsibilities include evaluating the ability of Basin Electric and its member systems to serve existing and prospective loads including large

commercial and industrial customers throughout Basin Electric's service territory in North Dakota.

5. Basin Electric is contractually obligated to meet the supplemental power requirements of its member systems in excess of their Western Area Power Administration ("WAPA") allocations. Basin Electric has a longstanding wholesale power contract with its member Upper Missouri Power Cooperative ("Upper Missouri"), and Upper Missouri has a longstanding wholesale power contract with its member Roughrider. Through these longstanding arrangements, Basin Electric provides wholesale electric service necessary to enable its members, including Roughrider, to serve their retail consumers. Basin Electric routinely plans for and serves significant load growth across its service territory and maintains substantial generation, transmission, and resource planning capabilities to meet the needs of its member systems.

6. Basin Electric is a Transmission Customer and takes Transmission Service on multiple Transmission Service Providers systems, including those of Midcontinent Independent System Operator ("MISO") and Southwest Power Pool ("SPP"), as well as other Transmission Service Providers systems in the western interconnection. Basin Electric is the entity that requests for new Transmission Service and new load interconnections on Transmission Service Provider's systems including those of MISO and SPP on behalf of Roughrider.

7. Basin Electric owns and operates four large coal fired power plants within North Dakota and Wyoming, including the Leland Olds Station, located approximately 10 miles north of Center, North Dakota. Basin Electric also purchases the output of the Oliver III Wind Energy Center located approximately 20 miles southeast of Center, North Dakota. As of the end of 2025, Basin Electric operated 5,779 Megawatts ("MW") of wholesale electric generating capability and had 9,035 MW of generating capacity within its resource portfolio located within both the eastern and western interconnection. Illustrating Basin Electric's ability to develop power supply when needed, Basin Electric began construction in 2026 on the Bison Generation

Station, to be located in Williams County, North Dakota which will provide necessary power supply to Basin Electric's member load and will create optionality in meeting Basin Electric's obligations throughout Basin Electric's member service territory. The Bison Generation Station will be a two unit combined-cycle power plant capable of producing up to 1,490 MW once construction is completed in 2029 and 2030.

8. Basin Electric's Large Load Commercial Program, adopted by Basin Electric's board in June 2025, is specifically designed to address the unique costs, planning requirements, and risks that can accompany service to new large electric loads. The program creates a clear process that supports growth while ensuring that the costs associated with serving such loads, including generation, transmission, infrastructure, and related system requirements, are appropriately assigned to the large-load customer and insulate Basin Electric's existing membership. The program also provides a framework for evaluating and accommodating substantial new loads while insulating existing members and consumers from undue financial risk.

9. Based on my review of the facilities identified by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. ("MDU"), the Coyote to Center 345kV transmission line, identified to serve Applied Digital, is subject to the MISO Open Access Transmission Tariff ("OATT"), originally established by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"). The MISO OATT provisions require Transmission Owners to furnish others with non-discriminating services comparable to that provided by the Transmission Owners themselves. Basin Electric is a Transmission Customer in both SPP and MISO; therefore, Basin Electric has the same opportunity to interconnect with the MISO OATT or SPP OATT facilities as any other Transmission Customer, which would also include MDU.

10. If Roughrider, through its arrangements with Upper Missouri and Basin Electric, were to serve Applied Digital on the MISO system, it would do so in the same manner that MDU

is proposing to serve. Thus, Basin Electric as a Transmission Customer would be able to serve Applied Digital in a similar manner to MDU as a Transmission Customer.

11. Based on information publicly available in this docket, it is my understanding that Roughrider can provide electric service to Applied Digital on terms that are substantially similar to those offered by MDU. Publicly available information indicates that the load can be served through arrangements that are consistent with Basin Electric's power supply capabilities and Basin Electric's Large Load Commercial Program requirements.

12. Basin Electric's Large Load Commercial Program was specifically developed to facilitate the interconnection and service of large-load customers such as Applied Digital. The program is open to applicants and provides a framework for establishing the transmission and power supply arrangements necessary to support load service for customers with significant energy requirements. Basin Electric is prepared to accept an application from Applied Digital, Roughrider, and Upper Missouri for the requested load service and would work through its Large Load Commercial Program to develop the transmission and power supply arrangements necessary to support the load.

13. Similar to the proposed Electric Service Agreement between MDU and Applied Digital, using MDU's High Density Contracted Demand Response Rate 45, Basin Electric's Large Load Commercial Program could allow for an interruptible type service to support Applied Digital proposed load request subject to the mutual agreement of terms and conditions by Basin Electric, Upper Missouri, Roughrider and Applied Digital.

I DECLARE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT THE FOREGOING IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

Signed on the 4th day of September, 2026, at Bismarck, North Dakota.

By: Rebecca A. Kern
Rebecca A. Kern
Vice President of Resource Planning and Rates