

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
Docket EL15-026
MidAmerican Energy Company
Data Request No. 1-3

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1-3) Refer to page 1 of attachment 1. Explain the significant increase in estimated oil usage from 2015-2018 compared to the estimates from EL13-027.

Response:

Fuel oil is primarily used by MidAmerican as a start-up fuel for its coal-fired generating units. MidAmerican used 237,000 MMBtu in fuel oil for the twelve months ended March 2015. MidAmerican projects an average annual usage of 255,000 MMBtu over the period 2015-2020 or a 7.5% increase. The Company projects maintenance outages and forced unit outages over the forecast period for its generating units and the resulting unit starts along with the specific unit fuel oil needs yield the total fuel oil usage.