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MidAmerican Energy Company
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RECEIVED

AUG 09 2004

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

August 6, 2004

Gas Advice Letter

Ms. Pamela Bonrud
Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

Contact: Debra L. Kutsunis
Telephone: 563 / 333-8870

Dear Ms. Bonrud:

MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) submits for filing the following revised gas tariff sheet.

South Dakota Gas Sales Tariff
SD P.U.C. Section No. V

First Revised Sheet No. 18

Canceling Original Sheet No. 18

With this filing, MidAmerican is proposing to change the billing adjustment provision of its tariff to give the Company the option of backbilling customers. MidAmerican is also requesting expedited treatment for Commission Action on less than 30 days. MidAmerican further requests any and all waivers necessary to allow implementation of the new tariff provisions at the earliest possible date.

Recently MidAmerican identified a programming inconsistency between some meters and their Encoder, Receiver, Transmitter (ERT) counterparts.

In 1996, MidAmerican purchased some Sprague 400 series meters and installed ERTs on them at the Company's gas meter center. The ERTs installed by MidAmerican on the Sprague 400 series meters in 1996 were not programmed to the proper values. This resulted in the ERT applying only 1 cubic foot per revolution while the meter registered the proper value of 2 cubic feet per revolution. This resulted in the ERT recording one-half of the energy consumed. The usage recorded on the ERT was used in billing these customers.

Ms. Pamela Bonrud, Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
August 6, 2004
Page 2

Written procedures were developed and implemented for programming ERTs in 1997 and have been followed since that time. These procedural changes help ensure that this situation will not occur again in the future.

MidAmerican is not proposing to backbill customers affected by this error in ERT programming. MidAmerican will forego the past gas margin on these accounts and is proposing to reflect the appropriate pro forma revenue adjustment in its pending gas rate case for the unbilled test year margin. Unbilled gas costs were recovered from all firm South Dakota gas customers through the normal function of the PGA. Over the past 5 years, the average impact on a typical residential customer was less than \$1 per year.

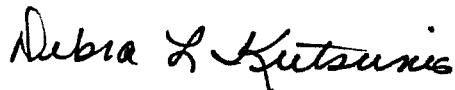
Immediately upon the Commission's approval of MidAmerican's plan, MidAmerican will begin notifying the affected customers. MidAmerican will communicate both by telephone and in writing to the affected customers. A draft letter is attached to this filing as Exhibit A.

Also, upon the Commission's approval of MidAmerican's plan, MidAmerican will also begin making the programming corrections to the ERTs. The corrections are expected to be completed within four weeks.

An original and ten copies of this Gas Advice Letter and accompanying tariff sheet are submitted herewith. Please file stamp the enclosed additional copy and return in the self-addressed envelope.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (563) 333-8870.

Sincerely,



DLK-ks
Enclosures



MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY
P.O. Box 778
Sioux City, Iowa 51102

SOUTH DAKOTA GAS SALES TARIFF
SD P.U.C. Section No. V
First Revised Sheet No. 18
Cancels Original Issue Sheet No. 18

RULES AND REGULATIONS

9.00 Billing (Continued)

9.04 Billing Adjustment for a Slow Meter - Whenever a meter is tested and found to have an average error of 2% slow or more, the Company may charge for the gas consumed but not previously billed. The charge for a slow meter shall be based on a corrected meter reading for a period equal to one-half of the time elapsed since the most recent test. The period of time shall not exceed six (6) months, unless it can be established that the error was due to some cause, the date of which can be fixed with reasonable certainty, in which case the charge shall be computed from that date.

9.05 Billing Adjustment for a Fast Meter - Whenever a meter is tested and found to have an average error of 2% fast or more, the Company shall refund to the customer the overcharge. The refund for a fast meter shall be based on a corrected meter reading for a period equal to one-half of the time elapsed since the most recent test. The period of time shall not exceed six months, unless it can be established that the error was due to some cause, the date of which can be fixed with reasonable certainty, in which case the refund shall be computed from that date. Only the customer served by the meter at the time of testing is eligible for a refund.

9.06 Adjustments to Bills for Other Billing Errors - *An Refunds or credits adjustment* for a billing error shall not exceed one year unless the date of the error can be fixed with reasonable certainty, in which case the refund *or charge* shall be computed from that date.

C
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A refund *or will, or a* charge *will may,* be rendered to the customer if a billing error occurred because of:

- 1) An incorrect reading of the meter,
- 2) An incorrect application of the rate schedule,
- 3) Incorrect connection of the meter,
- 4) Application of an incorrect multiplier,
- 5) Or other similar reasons.

9.07 Adjustment of Estimates - When an estimated bill appears to be abnormal, a recalculated bill for the entire period shall be computed at a rate which considers the use of service for that entire period and the estimated bill shall be deducted. If there is reasonable evidence that the use occurred during only one billing period, the bill shall be computed to reflect this usage.

9.08 Monthly Bills - Bills computed at the Company's established rates will be rendered monthly.

Date Filed: September 22, 1995 August 6, 2004 Effective Date: November 15, 1995 September 9, 2004

Issued By: James J. Howard, Vice President
Gas Administrative Services



MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY
P.O. Box 778
Sioux City, Iowa 51102

SOUTH DAKOTA GAS SALES TARIFF
SD P.U.C. Section No. V
First Revised Sheet No. 18
Cancels Original Issue Sheet No. 18

RULES AND REGULATIONS

9.00 Billing (Continued)

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9.05 Billing Adjustment for a Fast Meter - Whenever a meter is tested and found to have an average error of 2% fast or more, the Company shall refund to the customer the overcharge. The refund for a fast meter shall be based on a corrected meter reading for a period equal to one-half of the time elapsed since the most recent test. The period of time shall not exceed six months, unless it can be established that the error was due to some cause, the date of which can be fixed with reasonable certainty, in which case the refund shall be computed from that date. Only the customer served by the meter at the time of testing is eligible for a refund.

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C
D
C

A refund will, or a charge may, be rendered to the customer if a billing error occurred because of:

- 1) An incorrect reading of the meter,
- 2) An incorrect application of the rate schedule,
- 3) Incorrect connection of the meter,
- 4) Application of an incorrect multiplier,
- 5) Or other similar reasons.

9.07 Adjustment of Estimates - When an estimated bill appears to be abnormal, a recalculated bill for the entire period shall be computed at a rate which considers the use of service for that entire period and the estimated bill shall be deducted. If there is reasonable evidence that the use occurred during only one billing period, the bill shall be computed to reflect this usage.

9.08 Monthly Bills - Bills computed at the Company's established rates will be rendered monthly.

Date Filed: August 6, 2004

Effective Date: September 9, 2004

Issued By: James J. Howard, Vice President

<Date>

Customer Name
Customer Address
City, SD, ZIP

RE: Account Number 01234-56789

Dear Customer:

MidAmerican Energy Company's goal is to provide accurate and timely bills to every customer. Unfortunately, as previously discussed with you, the electronic transmission device on the gas meter located at <insert address> was programmed incorrectly and has only been registering half of the actual gas usage consumed since <insert date>.

The inaccuracy of the device resulted in bills that reflected less gas consumption than you actually used. Necessary corrections are being made and the device will be tested to ensure it is now accurately recording all usage going through the meter. Please be assured that you will not receive additional billings for the period of time that the device was programmed incorrectly. However, now that your usage is being measured accurately, you will likely see an increase in future bills.

It is MidAmerican's top priority to provide our customers with excellent service. We regret any inconvenience this error may have caused you. Please contact us toll free at 1-800-329-6261 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Gretta Knight
Manager, Customer Accounting

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
WEEKLY FILINGS
For the Period of August 5, 2004 through August 11, 2004

If you need a complete copy of a filing faxed, overnight expressed, or mailed to you, please contact Delaine Kolbo within five business days of this report. Phone: 605-773-3201

ELECTRIC

EL04-025 **In the Matter of the Joint Request for an Electric Service Territory Boundary Change between Xcel Energy, Inc. and Sioux Valley-Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc. d/b/a Sioux Valley Energy.**

On August 6, 2004, Sioux Valley Energy filed, for Commission approval, a Service Territory Exchange Agreement between Xcel Energy, Inc. and Sioux Valley-Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc. The agreement seeks a modification to the existing service territories of the respective companies allowing each party to better serve present and future customers within the modified territories.

Staff Analyst: Michele Farris
Staff Attorney: Karen Cremer
Date Filed: 08/06/04
Intervention Deadline: 08/27/04

NATURAL GAS

NG04-006 **In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc. for Approval of an Amendment to a Contract with Deviation with Merillat Corporation.**

Application by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU) for an amendment to its existing contract with Merillat Corporation which will expire on October 31, 2004. The proposed amendment provides for service to continue to Merillat for a one year period ending October 31, 2005, under the terms of the original contract. MDU has requested approval with less than 30 days notice.

Staff Analyst: Dave Jacobson
Staff Attorney: Karen Cremer
Date Filed: 08/06/04
Intervention Deadline: 08/27/04

NG04-007 **In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of Tariff Revisions.**

Application by MidAmerican Energy Company for approval of tariff provisions which will make backbilling customers in cases of incorrect billing an option instead of mandatory. MidAmerican has recently discovered a problem with certain electronic meter reading devices which caused customers to be billed for less gas than actually used. MidAmerican proposes to not backbill these customers for the usage not previously billed for.

Staff Analyst: Dave Jacobson

Staff Attorney: Karen Cremer
Date Filed: 08/09/04
Intervention Deadline: 08/27/04

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

TC04-164 In the Matter of the Request of Splitrock Properties, Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

On August 5, 2004, Splitrock Properties, Inc. (Splitrock) provided information constituting Splitrock's plan for the use of its federal universal service support and to otherwise verify that Splitrock will use all federal universal service support received in a manner that is consistent with the federal universal service provisions of 47 U.S.C. Section 254.

Staff Analyst: Harlan Best
Staff Attorney: Karen E. Cremer
Date Filed: 08/05/04
Intervention Deadline: 08/27/04

TC04-165 In the Matter of the Request of Alliance Communications Cooperative, Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

On August 5, 2004, Alliance Communications Cooperative, Inc. (Alliance) provided information constituting Alliance's plan for the use of its federal universal service support and to otherwise verify that Alliance will use all federal universal service support received in a manner that is consistent with the federal universal service provisions of 47 U.S.C. Section 254.

Staff Analyst: Harlan Best
Staff Attorney: Karen E. Cremer
Date Filed: 08/05/04
Intervention Deadline: 08/27/04

TC04-166 In the Matter of the Request of Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

On August 5, 2004, Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company (Northeast) provided information constituting Northeast's plan for the use of its federal universal service support and to otherwise verify that Northeast will use all federal universal service support received in a manner that is consistent with the federal universal service provisions of 47 U.S.C. Section 254.

Staff Analyst: Harlan Best
Staff Attorney: Karen E. Cremer
Date Filed: 08/05/04
Intervention Deadline: 08/27/04

TC04-167 In the Matter of the Request of City of Brookings Municipal Telephone Department for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

On August 5, 2004, City of Brookings Municipal Telephone (Brookings) provided information constituting Brookings' plan for the use of its federal universal service support and to otherwise verify that Brookings will use all federal universal service support received in a manner that is

consistent with the federal universal service provisions of 47 U.S.C. Section 254.

Staff Analyst: Harlan Best
Staff Attorney: Karen E. Cremer
Date Filed: 08/05/04
Intervention Deadline: 08/27/04

TC04-168 In the Matter of the Request of Venture Communications Cooperative for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

On August 5, 2004, Venture Communications Cooperative (Venture) provided information constituting Venture's plan for the use of its federal universal service support and to otherwise verify that Venture will use all federal universal service support received in a manner that is consistent with the federal universal service provisions of 47 U.S.C. Section 254.

Staff Analyst: Harlan Best
Staff Attorney: Karen E. Cremer
Date Filed: 08/05/04
Intervention Deadline: 08/27/04

TC04-169 In the Matter of the Request of Midstate Communications, Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

On August 5, 2004, Midstate Communications, Inc. (Midstate) provided information constituting Midstate's plan for the use of its federal universal service support and to otherwise verify that Midstate will use all federal universal service support received in a manner that is consistent with the federal universal service provisions of 47 U.S.C. Section 254.

Staff Analyst: Harlan Best
Staff Attorney: Karen E. Cremer
Date Filed: 08/05/04
Intervention Deadline: 08/27/04

TC04-170 In the Matter of the Request of Three River Telco for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

On August 6, 2004, Three River Telco (Three River) provided information constituting Three River's plan for the use of its federal universal service support and to otherwise verify that Three River will use all federal universal service support received in a manner that is consistent with the federal universal service provisions of 47 U.S.C. Section 254.

Staff Analyst: Harlan Best
Staff Attorney: Karen E. Cremer
Date Filed: 08/06/04
Intervention Deadline: 08/27/04

TC04-171 In the Matter of the Request of Jefferson Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

On August 6, 2004, Jefferson Telephone Company (Jefferson) provided information constituting Jefferson's plan for the use of its federal universal service support and to otherwise verify that Jefferson will use all federal universal service support received in a manner that is consistent

with the federal universal service provisions of 47 U.S.C. Section 254.

Staff Analyst: Harlan Best
Staff Attorney: Karen E. Cremer
Date Filed: 08/06/04
Intervention Deadline: 08/27/04

TC04-172 In the Matter of the Request of Beresford Municipal Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

On August 6, 2004, Beresford Municipal Telephone Company (Beresford) provided information constituting Beresford's plan for the use of its federal universal service support and to otherwise verify that Beresford will use all federal universal service support received in a manner that is consistent with the federal universal service provisions of 47 U.S.C. Section 254.

Staff Analyst: Harlan Best
Staff Attorney: Karen E. Cremer
Date Filed: 08/06/04
Intervention Deadline: 08/27/04

TC04-173 In the Matter of the Request of RT Communications, Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

On August 6, 2004, RT Communications, Inc. provided information constituting RT Communications' plan for the use of its federal universal service support and to otherwise verify that RT Communications will use all federal universal service support received in a manner that is consistent with the federal universal service provisions of 47 U.S.C. Section 254.

Staff Analyst: Harlan Best
Staff Attorney: Karen E. Cremer
Date Filed: 08/06/04
Intervention Deadline: 08/27/04

TC04-174 In the Matter of the Request of West River Telecommunications Cooperative for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

On August 6, 2004, West River Telecommunications Cooperative (West River) provided information constituting West River's plan for the use of its federal universal service support and to otherwise verify that West River will use all federal universal service support received in a manner that is consistent with the federal universal service provisions of 47 U.S.C. Section 254.

Staff Analyst: Harlan Best
Staff Attorney: Karen E. Cremer
Date Filed: 08/06/04
Intervention Deadline: 08/27/04

TC04-175 In the Matter of the Request of West River Telecommunications Cooperative (Mobridge) for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

On August 6, 2004, West River Telecommunications Cooperative (Mobridge) provided information constituting Mobridge's plan for the use of its federal universal service support and to otherwise verify that Mobridge will use all federal universal service support received in a manner

that is consistent with the federal universal service provisions of 47 U.S.C. Section 254.

Staff Analyst: Harlan Best
Staff Attorney: Karen E. Cremer
Date Filed: 08/06/04
Intervention Deadline: 08/27/04

TC04-176 In the Matter of the Request of Mount Rushmore Telephone Company and Fort Randall Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

On August 9, 2004, Mount Rushmore Telephone Company and Fort Randall Telephone Company (the Companies) provided information constituting the Companies' plan for the use of its federal universal service support and to otherwise verify that the Companies will use all federal universal service support received in a manner that is consistent with the federal universal service provisions of 47 U.S.C. Section 254.

Staff Analyst: Harlan Best
Staff Attorney: Karen E. Cremer
Date Filed: 08/09/04
Intervention Deadline: 08/27/04

TC04-177 In the Matter of the Request of Valley Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

On August 9, 2004, Valley Telephone Company (Valley) provided information constituting Valley's plan for the use of its federal universal service support and to otherwise verify that Valley will use all federal universal service support received in a manner that is consistent with the federal universal service provisions of 47 U.S.C. Section 254.

Staff Analyst: Harlan Best
Staff Attorney: Karen E. Cremer
Date Filed: 08/09/04
Intervention Deadline: 08/27/04

TC04-178 In the Matter of the Request of Red River Telecom, Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

On August 9, 2004, Red River Telecom, Inc. (Red River) provided information constituting Red River's plan for the use of its federal universal service support and to otherwise verify that Red River will use all federal universal service support received in a manner that is consistent with the federal universal service provisions of 47 U.S.C. Section 254.

Staff Analyst: Harlan Best
Staff Attorney: Karen E. Cremer
Date Filed: 08/09/04
Intervention Deadline: 08/27/04

TC04-179 In the Matter of the Request of Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

On August 9, 2004, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority (CRSTTA) provided

information constituting CRSTTA's plan for the use of its federal universal service support and to otherwise verify that CRSTTA will use all federal universal service support received in a manner that is consistent with the federal universal service provisions of 47 U.S.C. Section 254.

Staff Analyst: Harlan Best
Staff Attorney: Karen E. Cremer
Date Filed: 08/09/04
Intervention Deadline: 08/27/04

**TC04-180 In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Amendment to an
Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation and Midcontinent
Communications.**

On August 10, 2004, the Commission received a filing for approval of a Resale and Local Switching Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation and Midcontinent Communications. The parties state that the Amendment adds terms, conditions, and rates for Resale and Local Switching. Any party wishing to comment on the Amendment may do so by filing written comments with the Commission and the parties to the Amendment no later than August 30, 2004. Parties to the Amendment may file written responses to the comments no later than twenty days after the service of the initial comments.

Staff Attorney: Rolayne Ailts Wiest
Date Filed: 08/10/04
Initial Comments Due: 08/30/04

**TC04-181 In the Matter of the Application of VCI Company for a Certificate of Authority
to Provide Local Exchange Services in South Dakota.**

On August 10, 2004, VCI Company filed an application for a Certificate of Authority to provide facilities-based and resold local exchange, and intra-LATA toll services within the State of South Dakota. Applicant's services include, but are not limited to, basic local exchange services, intraLATA toll and customer calling features. Applicant also intends to provide exchange access services to interconnecting carriers pursuant to the rates, terms and conditions in an access services tariff to be filed with the Commission after Applicant's Certificate of Authority has been issued. Applicant proposes to provide facilities-based local exchange services using Unbundled Network Elements-Platform (UNE-P) leased or purchased from South Dakota certificated facilities-based local exchange carriers. Applicant may further resell the local exchange services of other South Dakota certificated local exchange carriers. Applicant proposes to provide service throughout the area in South Dakota currently served by Qwest Corporation.

Staff Analyst: Christine Hibbeler
Staff Attorney: Karen Cremer
Date Filed: 08/10/04
Intervention Deadline: 08/27/04

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Kolbo, Delaine

From: Jacobson, David
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2004 4:07 PM
To: Kolbo, Delaine
Cc: Cremer, Karen
Subject: CORRECTION FW: NG04-007 effective date

Debbie Kutsunis of MidAmerican has now requested an effective date of 09/01/04 for NG04-007. They filed requesting less than 30 days notice so I don't see a problem. Sorry and thanks.

-----Original Message-----

From: Jacobson, David
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2004 3:29 PM
To: Kolbo, Delaine
Cc: Cremer, Karen
Subject: NG04-006 and 007 effective dates

Just so I don't forget, the effective date of the tariffs for these two dockets will be:

NG04-006 = 11/01/04
And
NG04-007 = 09/09/04 (per the sheets in the filing)

Thanks.

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY) ORDER APPROVING TARIFF
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY FOR) REVISIONS
APPROVAL OF TARIFF REVISIONS)
) NG04-007

On August 9, 2004, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application from MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) requesting approval of gas tariff sheet changes. According to the filing, MidAmerican is proposing to change the billing adjustment provision of its tariff to give it the option of backbilling customers. MidAmerican also requested expedited treatment for Commission action on less than 30 days notice. MidAmerican proposed that the tariff changes be made effective September 1, 2004. The revised tariff sheet is as follows:

SDPUC Gas Sales Tariff
Section No. V

First Revised Sheet No. 18

Canceling Original Issue Sheet No. 18

At its regularly scheduled meeting of August 31, 2004, the Commission discussed final approval of the application. Commission Staff recommended approval of the revisions to the tariff sheet.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-2, 49-34A-4, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, and 49-34A-10 and ARSD 20:10:13:04. The Commission finds the revisions are just and reasonable and approves the changes. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the above-referenced revised tariff is approved and is effective for service rendered on and after September 1, 2004.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 7th day of September, 2004.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE	
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.	
By:	<u>Mildred Kolbo</u>
Date:	<u>9/7/04</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Robert K. Sahr

ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman

James A. Burg

JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner