



MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO.

A Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc.

400 North Fourth Street
Bismarck, ND 58501
(701) 222-7900

May 7, 2007

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen
Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities
Commission
State Capitol Building
500 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501

Re: General Provisions – Rate 100
Natural Gas Seasonal Reconnects
Docket No. NG07-010

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (Montana-Dakota), a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., hereby submits a revision to its proposal to modify the Seasonal Reconnection charges applicable to certain natural gas customers under General Provisions Rate 100 as originally submitted on March 29, 2007 in the above referenced Docket.

In its original filing, Montana-Dakota proposed to recognize in General Provisions Rate 100 relating to the Reconnection Fee for Seasonal or Temporary Customers that customers such as irrigators, swimming pool facilities, grain dryers and asphalt processors who cut out of service due to the seasonal nature of their business would be allowed credit for volumes of natural gas used during the time in service when calculating the applicable reconnection charge.

Pursuant to discussions with Commission Staff, Montana-Dakota is now proposing to refine the definition of seasonal customers as non-space heating seasonal customers and to specify in the tariff the volume level that must be met within the season in order to qualify for a potential reduction in the reconnection charge that would otherwise be applicable. The stated volume requirements represent the annual average use for the Firm General Service and Interruptible rate classes authorized in Docket No. NG04-04. Please see the attached revised tariff sheets showing the proposed revisions.

The tariff modification appropriately recognizes that the customers qualifying for this application of the reconnection charge utilize natural gas during off peak periods and typically use more volumes in their business season than the average annual use of other customers. Therefore, the proposed tariff provision is justified for the following reasons: 1) the seasonal customers are not contributing to distribution capacity costs in the same degree as on-peak space heating customers and 2) the seasonal business customers are contributing more than the average customer toward fixed costs due to the higher volumes of natural gas used.

Montana-Dakota respectfully requests approval of the attached tariff sheets to reflect the proposed modifications to General Provisions Rate 100.

This tariff revision has been electronically submitted to the Commission in accordance with ARSD 20:10:01:02:05.

Sincerely,



Donald R. Ball
Vice President – Regulatory Affairs

Attachment



**State of South Dakota
 Gas Rate Schedule – SDPUC Volume No. 2**

Section No. 5
 2nd Revised Sheet No. 1.15
 Canceling 1st Revised Sheet No. 1.15

GENERAL PROVISIONS Rate 100

17. **INSTALLING TEMPORARY METERING FACILITIES OR SERVICE – A**
 customer requesting a temporary meter installation and service will be charged on the basis of direct costs incurred by the Company.

18. **RECONNECTION FEE FOR SEASONAL OR TEMPORARY CUSTOMERS –**
 A customer who requests reconnection of service, during normal business hours at a location where same customer discontinued the same service during the preceding 12-month period will be charged as follows:

Residential -

The Basic Service Charge applicable during the period service was not being used or a minimum of \$30.00. The minimum will be based on standard overtime rates for reconnecting service after normal business hours.

Non-Residential -

The Basic Service Charge applicable during the period while service was not being used. However the reconnection charge applicable to seasonal non-space heating business entities such as irrigation, swimming facilities, grain drying and asphalt processing shall be the Basic Service Charge applicable during the period while service was not being used less the Distribution Delivery Charge revenue collected during the period in-service for usage above the annual authorized usage by rate class (Firm General < 500 cubic feet/hour = 144 dk; Firm General > 500 cubic feet/hour = 1,185 dk; and Small Interruptible = 3,270 dk). A minimum of \$30.00 will apply to all reconNECTIONS occurring during normal business hours. The minimum will be based on standard overtime rates for reconnection of service occurring after normal business hours.

Transportation customers who cease service and then resume service within the succeeding 12 months shall be subject to a reconnection charge of \$160.00 whenever reinstallation of the remote data acquisition equipment is necessary.

19. **DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE FOR NONPAYMENT OF BILLS – All**
 amounts billed for services are due when rendered and will be considered delinquent if not paid by the due date shown on the bill. If any customer shall become delinquent in the payment of amounts billed, such service may be discontinued by the Company under the applicable rules of the Commission.

Date Filed: May 7, 2007 **Effective Date:**
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Gas Rate Schedule – SDPUC Volume No. 2**

Section No. 5
2nd Revised Sheet No. 1.16
Canceling 1st Revised Sheet No. 1.16

GENERAL PROVISIONS Rate 100

Page 17 of 20

The Company may collect a fee of \$25.00 before restoring gas service which has been disconnected for nonpayment of service bills during normal business hours. Standard overtime rates will apply for services performed after normal business hours.

**20. DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE FOR CAUSES OTHER THAN
NONPAYMENT OF BILLS – The Company reserves the right to discontinue
service for any of the following reasons:**

- a. In the event of customer use of equipment in such a manner as to adversely affect the Company's equipment or service to others.
- b. In the event of tampering with the equipment furnished and owned by the Company.
- c. For violation of, or noncompliance with, the Company's rules on file with the Commission.
- d. For failure of the customer to fulfill the contractual obligations imposed as conditions of obtaining service.
- e. For refusal of reasonable access to property to the agent or employee of the Company for the purpose of inspecting the facilities or for testing, reading, maintaining or removing meters.

The right to discontinue service for any of the above reasons may be exercised whenever and as often as such reasons may occur, and any delay on the part of the Company in exercising such rights, or omission of any action permissible hereunder, shall not be deemed a waiver of its rights to exercise same.

Nothing in these regulations shall be construed to prevent discontinuing service without advance notice for reasons of safety, health, cooperation with civil authorities, or fraudulent use, tampering with or destroying the Company's facilities.

The Company may collect a reconnect fee of \$30.00 before restoring gas service which has been disconnected for the above causes.

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