

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
OF MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO.)
FOR AUTHORITY TO INCREASE ITS)
NATURAL GAS RATES)
)
)**

**JOINT MOTION FOR
APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT
STIPULATION**

NG12-008

COME NOW, Staff of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission and Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., jointly referred to as "Parties," and request that the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") adopted the attached Settlement Stipulation as the settlement and resolution of all of the issues in this proceeding.

In support of this Motion, the Parties submit as follows:

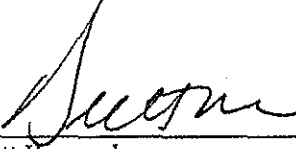
1. This Motion is made pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:19.
2. This Settlement Stipulation represents a negotiated settlement of all of the issues in Docket No. NG12-008.
3. The terms of the Settlement Stipulation are just and reasonable and consistent with South Dakota law.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, the undersigned parties jointly respectfully request the Commission adopt the attached Settlement Stipulation without modification for the purposes of resolving all issues in this rate proceeding and enter an Order finding that the attached Settlement Stipulation results in just and reasonable rates for customers of Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.

MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO.

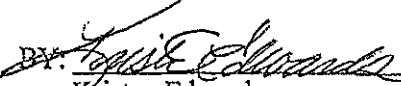
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES
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Dated:

24 October 2012

Dated:

24 October 2012