From: Hanson, Gary (PUC)

Sent: Tuesday, August 08, 2017 6:00 PM

To: Van Gerpen, Patty

Subject: Ex Parte Communication

Patty,

I received the following text on my phone from State Senator Jack Kolbeck on August 7, 2017.

Commissioners: RE: Farm Taps. After working on this last year in the legislature I would like to see your staff persuade Northern Energy to pay for the safety inspections of the farm taps if that is necessary. I feel that it is the least then can do for these fam tap customers who in good faith signed easement agreements with Northern years ago. It may make the agreement between Mid-America and those customers a little easier to negotiate.

Thanks for your consideration.

Jack Kolbeck 1124 E Plum Creek Rd, Sioux Falls, SD 57105.

This was my reply;

Thanks Jack, because of the ex parte issues we cannot comment with you on this except to say that we will take everything under consideration and do what statute allows us and requires us to do. This communication will be included in the docket. thanks for your thoughts.

Gary Hanson Vice Chairman South Dakota PUC 500 East Capitol Avenue Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070