

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY )	ORDER APPROVING TARIFF
MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO., A )	REVISIONS
DIVISION OF MDU RESOURCES GROUP, INC. )	
FOR APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO ITS FUEL )	EL02-023
CLAUSE TO PERMIT THE INCLUSION OF )	
PURCHASED POWER COSTS RELATED TO )	
RENEWABLE ENERGY PURCHASES )	

On October 28, 2002, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., Bismarck, North Dakota (MDU), filed with the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) proposed revisions which would allow costs of energy produced by renewable resources to be included in and recovered by Fuel Clause Rate 58. MDU has entered into an agreement to purchase electric energy from Dakota I Power Partners LLC which will construct wind generation facilities in the near future. MDU is requesting authority to recover such costs, and specifically the costs of wind generated energy pursuant to the agreement, through Fuel Clause Rate 58. MDU requested approval prior to December 31, 2002. The proposed tariff sheet is:

Volume 3, 4th Revised Sheet No. 27, cancelling 3rd Revised Sheet No. 27

At its regularly scheduled meeting of December 19, 2002, the Commission considered approval of the application. Commission Staff recommended approval.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A. Further, the revisions are just and reasonable and shall be approved. Further, the Commission finds that the purchase of wind generated energy from Dakota I Power Partners pursuant to the agreement filed in this application is approved. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that MDU's revised tariff as described above is approved and shall be effective for service rendered on and after December 30, 2002, and that the purchase of wind generated energy from Dakota I Power Partners pursuant to the agreement filed in this application is approved.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2003.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
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><i>Helene Kolbo</i></u>
Date: <u>1/6/03</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

*James A. Burg*  
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

*Pam Nelson*  
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

*Robert K. Sahr*  
ROBERT K. SAHR, Commissioner