

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY )  
MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO. FOR )  
APPROVAL FOR A VARIANCE OF ITS )  
PURCHASED GAS COST ADJUSTMENT )  
RATE 88 AND ASSOCIATED TARIFF )  
REVISIONS )**

**ORDER APPROVING  
VARIANCE AND TARIFF  
REVISIONS**

**NG10-001**

On February 2, 2010, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. filed a request for approval of a variance of tariff provisions in order to effect an out-of-cycle surcharge adjustment. Montana-Dakota established a surcharge adjustment of a negative \$1.049 per Dk for the Large Interruptible Sales rate effective October 1, 2009, in its Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment filing submitted on September 10, 2009. It has been determined that this over recovery of gas costs is attributable to one customer taking service under Montana-Dakota's Large Interruptible Sales Rate 85 schedule. In order to refund the balance remaining in the Interruptible balancing account to the customer that has and continues to be the sole customer taking service under the Large Interruptible Sales Rate 85 schedule, Montana-Dakota is proposing to refund the over recovery, via a lump sum payment to the customer at this time. By refunding at this time, the over recovery will be returned to the customer responsible for the over payment and new customers to this rate schedule will not unfairly benefit from that over payment. The revised tariff sheet is as follows:

Gas Rate Schedule  
SDPUC Volume No. 2

62<sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 1

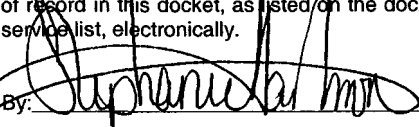
Canceling 61<sup>st</sup> Revised Sheet No. 1

At the February 9, 2010, meeting, the Commission discussed the final approval of the application. Commission Staff recommended approval of the revisions to the purchased gas cost adjustment and associated tariff revisions.

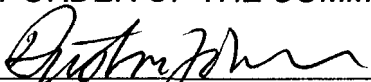
The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A. The Commission finds the revisions are just and reasonable and approved the revisions. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the above-referenced revised tariffs are approved and are effective as of February 9, 2010.

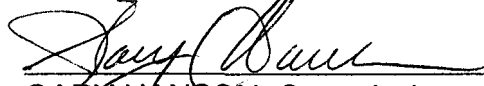
Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2010.

<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, electronically.
By: <u></u>
Date: <u>02/12/10</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
DUSTIN M. JOHNSON, Chairman

  
STEVE KOLBECK, Commissioner

  
GARY HANSON, Commissioner