



# Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.

400 N 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Bismarck, ND 58501

## State of South Dakota Gas Rate Schedule – SDPUC Volume No. 3

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Section No. 5  
Original Sheet No. 35

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### METER DATA AND PRIVACY POLICY – Rate 140

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#### I. Meter Data and Privacy Policy:

The Company will comply with federal and state legislation and regulatory statutes, regulations and decisions, as applicable, concerning, the use, retention, and sharing of Meter Data.

The Company owns the Meter Data and will use such information in the provision and development of any of its services.

This tariff pertains to Meter Data that is maintained by the Company in the ordinary course of business, including the transporting by third parties of natural gas to customers served from the Company's distribution system.

#### II. Definitions:

The Company provides a definition of "Meter Data" and utilizes the privacy guidelines and definitions of the North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) in support of this tariff. NAESB is a voluntary non-profit organization comprised of members from all aspects of the natural gas and electric industries.

**Authorization:** The result of a process by which the Customer provides informed written consent in a manner consistent with the applicable Governing Documents and any requirements of the applicable regulatory authority.

**Governing Documents:** Applicable law, regulatory documents (e.g., tariffs, rules and regulations), and Customer consent forms that determine the interactions among parties.

**Meter Data:** Information that is gathered and managed by the Company that enables it to provide services to Customers. This includes data that can be collected from a standard energy service meter, a digital meter with two-way communications capabilities, analysis that is created by the Company from a combination of various data types, and general Customer contact and service information.

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Third Party: An entity, that is permitted to receive Meter Data in accordance with applicable law, regulation, the Governing Documents and any requirements of the applicable regulatory authority, other than, the Company and its contracted agents, the applicable regulatory authority, Independent System Operators or other regional entities, which seeks or is provided Meter Data, including any entity under contract with the Third Party to perform the services or provide Meter Data, including any entity under contract with the Third Party to perform the services or provide the products as described in the Customer’s Authorization.

**III. Meter Data Collection:**

This tariff pertains to Meter Data that is maintained by the Company in the ordinary course of business.

**IV. Meter Data Protection and Security:**

Meter Data is kept confidential absent Customer written Authorization for its release to a Third Party. The Company shall terminate, within a reasonable period of time, a Third Party’s right to access future Meter Data for a Customer when: (i) the Customer withdraws its Authorization using the method provided by the Company, (ii) the Customer’s Authorization has reached the end of the specified period, (iii) a Customer’s service associated with a premise is terminated, or (iv) as required by Governing Documents.

The Company may release Meter Data, without Customer consent, as required by law enforcement agencies with a warrant or subpoena, social service agencies, actions involving civil litigation, or regulatory agency orders, rules, or regulations and exceptions permitted by federal or state statutes or laws.

The Company may release aggregated and/or anonymized data for multiple customers to third parties, with a qualifying business purpose, when requested. No identifiable customer information will be provided and the Company will provide the data aggregated to a level the Company determines to ensure customer anonymity and to prevent re-identification of the customer information by the data recipient.

The Company will only provide customer identifiers in the file upon receiving each customer’s written authorization and upon verification of accuracy by the Company.

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#### **V. Meter Data Access and Sharing:**

The Company will provide Meter Data to the Customer of record upon request and to Company affiliates, contractors, or agents subject to the applicable federal and state law. The Company will require any affiliate and the affiliate's employees, agents and contractors having access to the Meter Data subject to this tariff to treat such data in the same manner as required of the Company under its Sensitive Information Policy Statement. The Company will provide Meter Data to a Customer's Third Party designee upon receiving a Customer's written Authorization and upon verification of accuracy by the Company.

#### **VI. Meter Data Retention:**

The Company stores and maintains Meter Data for a reasonable period in its ordinary course of business. The Company will make and retain, for a reasonable period of time, records related to disclosures of Meter Data to Third Parties.

#### **VII. Meter Data Breach Notification:**

The Company will use reasonable efforts and commercially practicable methods to notify affected Customers of a breach of this policy. The Company will restore the integrity of the system and Meter Data to the extent, and as soon as, reasonably practicable.

#### **VIII. Hold Harmless:**

Once the Company has disclosed Meter Data in accordance with this tariff, federal or state law, applicable Governing Documents or requirements of a regulatory authority, the Company is not responsible or liable in any way whatsoever after the disclosure of that information, including but not limited to, the security of such information, the use or misuse of such information or the subsequent disclosure by the recipient or other parties.

#### **IX. Questions or Complaints:**

Questions or complaints about the implementation or enforcement of this tariff may be directed to:

Regulatory Affairs Department  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
400 North 4th Street  
Bismarck, ND 58501  
Telephone: 1-800-638-3278  
Website: [www.montana-dakota.com](http://www.montana-dakota.com)

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