

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

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSION STAFF'S PETITION FOR DECLARATORY RULING REGARDING FARM TAP CUSTOMERS	NG 16-014 APPLICATION FOR PARTY STATUS
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Comes now Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a division of MDU Resources Group, Inc.

("Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.") by and through its attorneys and petitions the Commission for party status in accordance with SDCL 1-26-17.1 and Administrative Rules of South Dakota (ARSD) 20:10:01:15:02 and 20:10:01:15.03, in the above captioned proceeding.

In support of its Petition, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. states as follows:

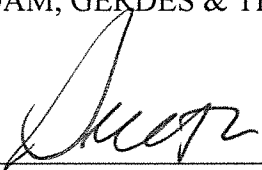
1. The Commission has opened a docket to consider making a declaratory ruling regarding farm taps and the regulation thereof.
2. Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. owns and operates farm taps in South Dakota, and thus has a direct and substantial interest in the proceedings because the Commission's decision may affect the administration of Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. assets in South Dakota.
3. The interests of Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. are unique and cannot be fully and adequately represented by the existing parties.
4. Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. desires to obtain party status so that it may receive documents, submit comments, present testimony, cross examine witnesses and produce evidence to the extent that such actions are necessary or required.

5. The deadline to intervene has not run. Montana-Dakota Utilities states affirmatively that no parties will be prejudiced by this filing, and that denial would be detrimental to the public interest.


WHEREFORE Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. respectfully requests that the Commission grant this Petition and authorize Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. to participate in this proceeding.

Dated this 8 day of November, 2016.

MAY, ADAM, GERDES & THOMPSON LLP

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

 Brett Koenecke of May, Adam, Gerdes & Thompson LLP hereby certifies that on this 8 day of November, 2016, he electronically filed and served, a true and correct copy of the foregoing in the above-captioned action to the following at their last known address, to-wit:

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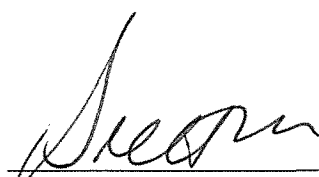
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