Subject Matter: Third Data Request

Request to: Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU)

Request from: South Dakota Public Utilities Commission Staff

Date of Request: November 14, 2024 Responses Due: November 21, 2024

Note: Questions 3-1 through 3-24 have already been asked and answered in DR 1 and DR 2 in EL24-028. This data request is simply to have that information available in this docket as well. (DRs 3-16, 3-19, and 3-22 below also include the follow-up questions asked in DR 3 in EL24-028.)

3-8. Refer to page 2 of the Electric Service Agreement in docket EL24-028. Has MDU received LDC's \$1,000,000 initial contribution in aid of construction? If not, explain why.

Response:

Yes, Montana-Dakota has received the \$1,000,000 initial contribution in aid of construction from LDC.

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3-9. Refer to page 1 of the Electric Service Agreement in docket EL24-028. Provide a timeline of when MDU will incur the in project costs. Will there be any period where total project costs incurred by MDU will exceed the total contribution in aid of construction that has been received? Explain.

Response:

Actual project construction schedule and expenditures will be agreed upon with the customer. At no point will Montana-Dakota incur project costs that exceed the contribution in aid to construction (CAIC). If MDU projects to incur costs greater than the CAIC it will request additional funds from LDC.

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3-15. Confirm that LDC is a cryptocurrency business that currently plans to be a portable containerized business. What are the advantages and disadvantages to MDU and its customers of this model versus operating out of permanent, non-portable buildings?

Response:

LDC's site plans have changed. LDC is now planning to build 4 separate 12.5 MW structures on the site instead of portable containerized units.

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3-24. Referring to the pass-through part of LDC's bill in docket EL24-028, what protections does MDU have in place if LDC were to not pay a bill after the costs have been incurred by MDU?

Response:

As noted in Response No. 3-17, Montana-Dakota's ESA includes a provision that requires LDC to maintain a Letter of Credit in an amount sufficient to cover 45 days of Bi-weekly bills and 2.5 Months of monthly bills giving sufficient time to provide notice of non-payment default and cure opportunity to LDC before negative impacts occur to Montana-Dakota or its customers for non-payment events.

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Response:

Confirm.