

**MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO.
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
1ST SET OF DATA REQUESTS
ISSUED MAY 25, 2017
DOCKET NO. NG17-008**

1-1. Has MDU developed any projection for customer requests for EFV's over the next 5 years? If so, what is MDU anticipating for requests?

Response: Montana-Dakota has not prepared a projection of requests however; there was little interest from customers when the Company was required to offer the installation of an EFV to a new customer prior to the requirement that an EFV be installed on all new service lines.

1-2. Explain how MDU developed the \$650 cost estimate as described on page 2 of the petition.

Response: The estimate is based the average cost of a plastic excess flow valve and a generalization of normal digging conditions for time needed to install an EFV based on contract pricing from Montana-Dakota approved contractors.

1-3. How much does the actual excess flow valve cost without any labor or other materials.

Response: The average cost of a plastic excess flow valve cost is \$27.87 and the average steel excess flow valve cost is \$48.98 excluding any labor or other materials.

1-4. Have any eligible MDU customers requested the installation of an EFV valve?

Response: No customer has requested an installation as of today.

1-5. In the event of a line hit or other event which causes the service line to be excavated, will an EFV be installed?

Response: An EFV would be installed after a third party damage if damage occurred on the service near the connection (tap tee) to the main or the pipe directly attached to the connection to the main needs to be replaced. If damage occurred away from this location then the EFV install would be optional to the customer and the customer is responsible to cover the costs.

If the service line is being replaced entirely then the current practice and requirement is that an EFV would be installed at the Company's expense.