

MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO.
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
DATA REQUEST SET 1
ISSUED FEBRUARY 9, 2022 – DUE FEBRUARY 14, 2022
DOCKET NO. NG22-001

- 1-4. Refer to Exhibit 2.
- a) Identify any specific drivers behind the lower participation level in 2021 for the Residential Programmable Thermostats – Tier 1 program compared to budgeted. Does MDU expect participation levels to increase in 2022 to the projected level?
 - b) The Commercial Custom Efficiency program had only one participant in 2021 yet the majority of the budget was spent.
 - i. Provide additional details about this project.
 - ii. Were there any unfulfilled requests in 2021?

Response:

- a) Higher interest in the Tier 2 programmable thermostat program is the main driver on low participation on the Tier 1 programmable thermostat program. Montana-Dakota's recent 2021-2023 Conservation Portfolio Program in Docket No. NG20-011 budgeted 67% of Tier 2 programmable thermostat participants out of the two thermostat programs available. The Tier 2 programmable thermostat program offers a larger rebate to compensate for higher energy savings and to offset the higher incremental cost associated with the Wi-Fi enabled units that is only available on Tier 2.
- b) The Commercial Custom Program had one participant in 2021 from a high school in the Pierre school district.
 - i. There were two large boilers replaced that provided substantial energy savings.
 - ii. Montana-Dakota did not receive other applications for the Commercial Custom Program in 2021.