

**Docket Number:** NG24-013  
**Subject Matter:** First Data Request  
**Request to:** MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican or Company)  
**Request from:** South Dakota Public Utilities Commission Staff  
**Date of Request:** January 8, 2025  
**Responses Submitted:** January 22, 2025

- 1-1. Refer to the petition, Attachment A, regarding the costs related to flooding.
- a) Do the costs for labor reflect any independent contractor labor hired to deal with the McCook County flooding?
  - b) Are the labor costs reflected in the attachment already included in the current base rates for the company? If not, how did the company reflect the labor costs shown on the attachment while considering those current labor costs built into base rates?

**Response:**

- A) The labor line items reflect only MidAmerican employee labor. The independent contractor costs are included in Line number 5: Services.
- B) No, the costs shown in the attachment are considered above and beyond the normal operating costs due to the extreme flooding conditions, and as such, these costs are not factored into the base rates.

- 1-2. Did MidAmerican have or utilize any insurance coverage or other type of protection to help mitigate the costs proposed for deferred accounting treatment?

**Response:**

MidAmerican weighs the costs of insurance premiums to be borne by customers with the benefits from several types of insurance protection. Business interruption insurance is the type of coverage that would be utilized to replace income lost, including the costs included in this docket, in the event of a claim. Currently, MidAmerican has not found it is in the best interest of our customers, from a cost perspective, to include business interruption coverage as part of our overall insurance protection.

MidAmerican does have property insurance in place to cover property damage from a covered cause of loss to an owned asset. This protection maintains a \$10m self-insured retention. The costs included in this docket do not include the loss of the owned asset and are significantly lower than the \$10m threshold.

- 1-3. Was the company eligible or did the company apply for any disaster relief or other emergency funding to fund any costs incurred related to the flooding?

**Response:**

MidAmerican Energy Company was not eligible for disaster relief. According to the information available on the South Dakota Department of Public Safety website, disaster relief funds were available in three categories: Public Assistance for state and local governments and certain non-profit organizations, Individual Assistance for individuals

needing help with housing, personal property, transportation, medical and dental, and funeral expenses, and for small businesses.

[Public Assistance for Disaster Recovery | SD DPS](#)

[Individual Assistance for Disaster Recovery | SD DPS](#)

[Small Business Disaster Assistance | SD DPS](#)

- 1-4. What was the remaining life expectancy of the damaged facilities that needed to be replaced to restore natural gas service to MidAmerican's customers? When were the facilities installed and were there any plans in the near term to replace such facilities?

**Response:**

The replacement of the damaged facilities is a capital expense and is not included in the operating costs to be included in the regulatory asset. For reference, the damaged main was installed in 1998. Modern medium density plastic main has an estimated lifespan of between 60 and 100 years. There were no plans to replace the damaged facilities in the near term.