



**MIDWEST FAMILY MUTUAL
INSURANCE COMPANY**

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RECEIVED

AUG 10 2009

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

August 6, 2009

South Dakota Utilities Commission
500 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

RE: Claim Number: 00292315
Insured Name: Midwest Clutch & Auto Repair
Date of Loss: 3-14-2009

Dear Ms. Semmler:

We are writing in reference to a explosion that destroyed the building and contents of our insured Midwest Clutch. Their building was located at 128 E. Main Street in Rapid City. A gas leak was the cause of the explosion. We are seeking permission to have a 10 foot piece of the main gas line from the street released for testing. The intent is to continue to establish the facts of what happened. Our insured has sustained over \$500,000 in damages. Chris Rallis from Technical Investigative Services was hired as our cause and origin investigator and it is his opinion that Montana Dakota Utility is liable for the loss. To date MDU has not accepted liability for this occurrence.

We would be willing to have a joint test completed with all parties involved at an independent lab of Stork Twin Cities. A Metallurgist Sid Bhatt of MEM Engineering would be present for the inspect on Midwest Family's behalf. Or if you have other protocol that needs to be followed, please advise. We are interested in trying to resolve this matter as soon as possible.

Any assistance you can provide would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Mike Carey, CPCU, AIC
Property Claims Manager
(763) 951-7042



A "Green" Company

For more information: midwestfamily.com