

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY)	ORDER APPROVING
MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO. FOR)	TARIFF REVISIONS
APPROVAL OF TARIFF REVISIONS)	
)	EL12-044

On June 20, 2012, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU), a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., for Commission approval of revisions to MDU's tariffs applicable to cogeneration and small power production facilities with capacities of 100 kW or less, specifically Occasional Power Purchase Non-Time Differentiated Rate 95, Short-Term Power Purchase Time Differentiated Rate 96, and Long-Term Power Purchase Time Differentiated Rate 97. The proposed revisions are to update MDU's avoided cost rates for small qualifying facilities, to remove the 600 kWh per month limit on the energy for which a customer will be paid each month under Rate 95, and to reflect MDU's current methodology for determining the monthly dispatchable resources capacity payment and non-dispatchable resources capacity payment under Rates 96 and 97.

On June 21, 2012, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 6, 2012, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A, including 49-34A-6, 49-34A-10, and 49-34A-93, and ARSD 20:10:13:02 through 20:10:13:27.

The matter was brought on for action at the Commission's regular meeting on July 31, 2012. MDU requested that the matter be deferred to enable it to investigate and correct, if necessary, a possible error in one of the proposed tariff sheets. On August 10, 2012, MDU filed a revised tariff sheet to correct an inaccuracy discovered in the tariff sheet as originally filed. The revised tariff sheets for which approval is sought are as follows:

State of South Dakota Electric Rate Schedule -SD P.U.C.

Section No. 3

26th Revised Sheet No. 28	Cancelling 25th Revised Sheet No. 28
27th Revised Sheet No. 29	Cancelling 26th Revised Sheet No. 29
17th Revised Sheet No. 29.1	Cancelling 16th Revised Sheet No. 29.1
27th Revised Sheet No. 30	Cancelling 26th Revised Sheet No. 30
18th Revised Sheet No. 30.1	Cancelling 17th Revised Sheet No. 30.1

At its regular meeting on August 14, 2012, the Commission considered this matter. Commission Staff recommended approval of the tariff sheets as revised. Finding the proposed tariff revisions to be just and reasonable, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the tariff revisions. It is therefore

ORDERED, that MDU's revised tariff sheets, as described above, are approved and shall be effective as of August 14, 2012. It is further

ORDERED, that MDU shall file final conforming tariff sheets reflecting the effective date.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 15th day of August, 2012.

<p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically.</p> <p>By: <u>Tina Douglas</u></p> <p>Date: <u>8-15-12</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner