

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WYOMING

IN THE MATTER OF THE TARIFF FILING)
OF MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO.)
FOR AUTHORITY TO REVISE ITS)
NATURAL GAS TARIFF FOR EXCESS)
FLOW VALVES TO COMPLY WITH)
FEDERAL PIPELINE SAFETY)
REGULATIONS)

Docket No. 30013-327-GT-17
(Record No. 14727)

NOTICE AND ORDER
(Issued March 14, 2018)

This matter is before the Wyoming Public Service Commission (Commission) upon the Application of Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU or the Company) for authority to revise its natural gas tariff for excess flow valves to comply with Federal Pipeline Safety Regulations.

The Commission, having reviewed the Application, its files regarding MDU, applicable Wyoming utility law, and being otherwise fully advised in the premises, HEREBY FINDS and CONCLUDES:

1. MDU is a public utility as defined by Wyo. Stat. § 37-1-101(a)(vi)(D), subject to the Commission's jurisdiction pursuant to Wyo. Stat. § 37-2-112.

2. On May 19, 2017, MDU filed its Application requesting authority to revise its natural gas tariff to address excess flow valves (EFV). According to the Company, it currently installs EFVs on all new and replacement service lines in accordance with Federal Pipeline Safety Regulations. The proposed change is applicable only to EFV installation on existing service lines. This change would apply to approximately 16,250 service lines.

3. The proposed changes include an EFV definition and an explanation of installation practices.

4. MDU's Application was considered pursuant to due notice at the Commission's Open Meeting of February 6, 2018. Bruce Asay, Counsel, appeared in person; Tamie Aberle, Director Regulatory Affairs, and Mike Schoepp, Director of Operations Service, appeared by telephone for the Company. Mr. Asay provided a summary of the Application, stating that federal regulations require the Company to notify customers about the availability of EFVs on existing service lines at the customer's expense. Mr. Asay noted one amendment to MDU's tariff reflects the Company's commitment to provide an estimate of the installation cost to the customer requesting the EFV installation. The Company agreed to make a compliance filing incorporating the suggested changes in the Commission Staff's Memorandum.

5. The Commission finds and concludes, based upon the presentations made by MDU, the Company's proposed revised tariff is in the public interest and should be approved, subject to notice, protest, intervention, refund, change, further investigation, opportunity for hearing, and further order of the Commission.

6. Public notice in this matter shall be as follows:

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Wyoming Public Service Commission (Commission) approved the Application of Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU) for authority to revise its natural gas tariff for excess flow valves to comply with Federal Pipeline Safety Regulations. The Commission's approval of MDU's tariff revisions is subject to notice, protest, intervention, refund, change, further investigation, opportunity for hearing, and further order of the Commission.

On May 19, 2017, MDU filed its Application requesting authority to revise its natural gas tariff to address excess flow valves (EFV). The changes to the tariff are in response to Federal Pipeline Safety Regulations that require the Company to notify customers of the availability of EFVs. According to the Company, it currently installs EFVs on all new and replacement service lines in accordance with Federal Pipeline Safety Regulations. The proposed change is applicable only to EFV installation on existing service lines.

MDU's Application is on file at the Commission's offices, located at 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming. The Application is available for inspection by any interested person during regular business hours or online at: <http://psc.state.wy.us/>.

Anyone desiring to file a statement, intervention petition, protest or request for a public hearing in this matter must file in writing with the Commission on or before April 13, 2018. A proposed intervention or request for hearing must set forth the grounds under which they are made and the position and interest of the petitioner in this proceeding. Please mention Docket No. 30013-327-GT-17 (Record No. 14727) in your communications.

If you wish to intervene in this matter or request a public hearing that you will attend, or want to make a statement, a protest or a public comment, and you require reasonable accommodation for a disability, please contact the Commission at (307) 777-7427, or write to the Commission at 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002, to make arrangements. Communications-impaired persons may also contact the Commission by accessing Wyoming Relay at 711.

Dated: March 14, 2018.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. Pursuant to Open Meeting action taken on February 6, 2018, the Application of Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for authority to revise its natural gas tariff for excess flow valves to comply with Federal Pipeline Safety Regulations is approved, subject to notice, protest, intervention, refund, change, further investigation, opportunity for hearing, and further order of the Commission.

2. This *Order* is effective immediately.

MADE and ENTERED at Cheyenne, Wyoming, on March 14, 2018.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WYOMING

WILLIAM F. RUSSELL, Chairman

KARA BRIGHTON FORNSTROM, Deputy Chair

ROBIN SESSIONS COOLEY, Commissioner



ATTEST:

STEVE MINK, Assistant Secretary