



NEWS RELEASE
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PSC Will Hold Formal Hearing to Consider MDU's Request for Electric Rate Increase

BISMARCK, ND – The North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC) will hold a formal hearing starting Monday, April 10, in Bismarck to consider a proposal from Montana Dakota Utilities (MDU) to increase its rates for electricity.

The proposed increase is for \$13.4 million annually over current rates, or a 6.6 percent overall increase. The proposed increase to residential electric customers is 9.4 percent. If approved, rates would increase for residential customers by an average of about \$9.60 a month. MDU provides electric service to approximately 100,687 customers in 117 communities in North Dakota.

MDU's interim electric rates became effective in Dec. 2016. Those interim rates increased a customer's bill by an average of \$6.09 a month. Because of this, when the final approved rate is determined, customers will only see their bills adjusted by the difference between the interim and final rate. For example, if the final approved increase affects an average customer's bill by \$9.60 a month, they would see an additional increase of approximately \$3.51 a month. MDU is required to refund interim revenue amounts in excess of the final approved revenue amounts with interest.

Details for the formal hearing are as follows:

- **When: Monday, April 10, 2017 – 8:30 a.m. Central (hearing will continue April 11 and 12 if necessary, starting at 8:30 each day)**
- **Where: Commission Hearing Room, State Capitol Building, 12th Floor, Bismarck, N.D.**
- **Hearing can be viewed online by going to www.psc.nd.gov and clicking on the webstream link under "Watch/Listen to the Commission Live"**

The hearing provides an opportunity for members of the public to contribute to the PSC's official record. Any comments from members of the public must be received at the hearing and under oath to be part of the record. Information received after the hearing will not be part of the official record and cannot be used as a basis for the Commission's decision unless certain additional procedures are followed.

The North Dakota Public Service Commission is a constitutionally created state agency with authority to permit, site and regulate certain business activities in the state including electric and gas utilities, telecommunications companies, power plants, electric transmission lines, pipelines, railroads, grain elevators, auctioneers, commercial weighing devices, pipeline safety and coal mine reclamation. For more information, contact the Public Service Commission at (701) 328-2400 or www.psc.nd.gov.

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