



**NEWS RELEASE**  
**April 7, 2015**

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### **PSC Schedules Public Input Sessions for Proposed MDU Natural Gas Rate Increase**

BISMARCK, ND – The North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC) will hold public input sessions on April 13 and 14 regarding a request from Montana Dakota Utilities (MDU) to increase its rates for natural gas service.

The proposed increase is for \$4.3 million annually over current rates, or a 3.4 percent overall increase. If approved, rates would increase for residential customers by an average of about \$3.50 a month. MDU states the reason for the rate increase is to recover the cost of the increased investment in natural gas facilities, which is projected to be \$212 million by the end of 2015.

The requested increase would be added to the distribution charge, which makes up about 29 percent of a customer's bill. The remaining 71 percent of a monthly bill reflects the cost of gas, which changes from month to month based on the current market price and is not a part of this rate case. The company does not earn a return on the gas cost portion.

Public input sessions will be held on two separate days via interactive television from locations across the state. The public will also be able to listen to the public input session via webcast and submit questions via e-mail. Officials from MDU will provide a presentation and give those attending a chance to ask questions about the proposal. All sites will be connected via interactive television, but a representative from MDU will be present at each site to facilitate questions from the audience. Public input sessions are not considered part of the formal technical hearing, but the PSC Commissioners will be attending and using the information gathered at the sessions to identify areas of concern that may require further investigation during the formal technical hearing, which will be held on July 20.

**Note to the Media: A detailed list of the meeting locations is included on the next page, along with instructions for listening to the sessions via webstream.**

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](http://www.psc.nd.gov).

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**Public Service Commission – Public Input Sessions  
MDU Natural Gas Rate Increase (Case # PU-15-90)**

**Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> – 7 p.m. CDT**

Bismarck State College  
VoTech Center, Room 246  
1200 College Drive  
Bismarck, ND 58506

Williston State College  
Stevens Hall, Room 120  
1410 University Ave.  
Williston, ND 58801

Dickinson State University  
Klinefelter, Room 220  
1679 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. W  
Dickinson, ND 58601

Lake Region State College  
Administration, Room 123  
1801 College Drive N.  
Devils Lake, ND 58301

Minot State University  
Administration Building, Room 359  
500 University Avenue W.  
Minot, ND 58707

Valley City State University  
Rhoades, Room 101  
101 College Street SW  
Valley City, ND 58072

**Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> – 12 p.m. CDT**

Public Service Commission  
Hearing Room, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor State Capitol  
600 East Boulevard Ave.  
Bismarck, ND 58505

Williston State College  
Stevens Hall, Room 120  
1410 University Ave.  
Williston, ND 58801

Dickinson State University  
Murphy Hall, Room 202  
1679 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. W  
Dickinson, ND 58601

Lake Region State College  
Administration, Room 172  
1801 College Drive N.  
Devils Lake, ND 58301

Minot State University  
Administration Building, Room 359  
500 University Avenue W.  
Minot, ND 58707

Valley City State University  
Rhoades, Room 101  
101 College Street SW  
Valley City, ND 58072

To listen via webstream:

- Visit the web address <http://education.video.nd.gov>
- Login using email: [guest@meeting.edu](mailto:guest@meeting.edu)  
Password: meeting
- Questions can be submitted via e-mail during the session to [vschock@nd.gov](mailto:vschock@nd.gov)