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Information Request No. 7

Docket No.: G-011/M-17-409

Response To: MPUC Data Requests

Requestor: Jason Bonnett (MPUC)

Date Received: May 20, 2021

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**PUC Request No. 7**

**Please indicate what effect, if any, Commission approval or disapproval of the Phase II Procedural Proposal will have on the month-to-month extension of the 1987 Agreement with MERC.**

**Northern Natural Gas Response:**

Peoples, and its successors and assignees, obligation to provide the gas distribution service to farm tap customers was unconditionally assumed when Peoples was purchased by UtiliCorp in 1985. The 1987 Agreement merely detailed the responsibilities that were known, understood, and accepted since the time of original construction. The obligation to provide the gas service to farm tap customers is expressly established in the 1985 purchase agreement, not the 1987 Agreement. Therefore, the important question is not regarding the 1987 Agreement but rather, will MERC or some other utility satisfy the obligation to provide gas distribution service to the farm tap customers not directly connected to MERC's distribution system. If no gas distribution service is provided, the farm tap customer cannot receive service.

See Northern's 2017 Comments and Northern response to PUC Request Nos. 3 and 4.

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