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July 21, 2015

Daniel P. Wolf
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 Seventh Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Re: Docket No. G004/M-15-566 Reply Comments to the Department of Commerce,
Division of Energy Resources

Dear Mr. Wolf:

Great Plains Natural Gas Co. (Great Plains), a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., herewith submits its Reply Comments to the Comments of the Department of Commerce (Department) filed on July 8, 2015, regarding Great Plains' Petition for Approval to modify the Customer Billing Statement Form and Tariff filed on June 8, 2015 in the above referenced docket.

Great Plains agrees with the Department's recommendation that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) approve the modified consumer billing statement form and revised tariff sheets submitted by Great Plains on June 8, 2015.

If you have any questions regarding this filing, please contact me at (701) 222-7856, or Brian Meloy, at (612) 335-1451.

Sincerely,

By/s/ *Tamie A. Aberle*
Tamie A. Aberle
Director of Regulatory Affairs

cc: Brian Meloy

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

Beverly Jones Heydinger	Chair
Betsy Wergin	Vice Chair
Nancy Lange	Commissioner
Dan Lipschultz	Commissioner
John Tuma	Commissioner

In the Matter of Great Plains)	
Natural Gas Co.'s Gas Petition to)	Docket No. G004/M-15-566
Modify Consumer Billing)	
Statement Form and Tariff)	Reply Comments of Great
)	Plains Natural Gas Co.

Great Plains Natural Gas Co.'s (Great Plains) a Division of MDU Resources Group Inc., new consumer billing statement form was approved by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) on December 1, 2014 in Docket No. G004/M-14-782. On June 8, 2015 Great Plains submitted a Petition to the Commission for approval to modify its consumer billing statement form pursuant to the requirements of Minnesota Rules 7829.1300, 7820.0200 and 7820.3500 (Petition). Great Plains respectfully submits the following Reply Comments in response to comments filed by the Minnesota Department of Commerce ("Department") on July 8, 2015, in the above referenced proceedings.

**I.
DISCUSSION**

In its June 8 Petition, Great Plains proposed to modify its consumer billing statement contained in its Natural Gas Tariff. Specifically, Great Plains requested that the Commission approve the following changes:

- Addition of information for the Online payment option on the back side of the billing statement;
- Revised language regarding past due dates; and
- Addition of the town name, state, and zip code of the address where customer inquiries or complaints may be sent.

In its July 8, 2015 Comments, the Department concluded that the proposed modifications to the customer billing statement comply with the Minnesota rules and are reasonable. The Department, therefore, recommended that the Commission approve Great Plains' Petition.

On page 2 of its Comments, however, the Department notes that to the extent Great Plains' online bill pay option involves customer agreements, Great Plains may be required to obtain Commission approval before implementing the online bill pay option in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 216B.05, Subd. 2.

In response to the Department's Comments, Great Plains clarifies that its online bill pay option does not require a customer choosing to voluntarily participate to sign a customer agreement, nor does the option change any rate or term or condition of service. Instead, customers will now be permitted to register to participate in an online billing option and may opt out of the option at any time. The registration information would include the basic following information:

Online Account Services

Welcome to the **Great Plains Natural Gas Co.**
Online Account Services Website

Register Now

Back

Username

Username is required

Password

Password Re-type

Account Number

Account Description

Pin

Email Address

Email Address Re-type

* Bill Delivery Method

Select One...

Select one of the options for bill delivery. If you choose eBill, you will receive an email notification each month when your bill is ready to view.

Register

Login

Username is required
Please enter valid password

Username

Password

Forgot Username | Forgot Password

Login

Accordingly, Great Plains requests that the Commission confirm that approval pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216B.05, Subd. 2 is not required for Great Plains to implement its online bill pay option. Alternatively, in the event the Commission determines that approval is necessary, Great Plains requests that the Commission approve the online payment option as outlined herein.

II. CONCLUSION

Great Plains appreciates the Department's Comments and respectfully requests that the Commission accept its modified consumer billing statement form and revised tariff sheets.

Dated: July 21, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Tamie A. Aberle

Tamie A. Aberle
Director of Regulatory Affairs
Great Plains Natural Gas Co.
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Bismarck, ND 58501