

Public Service Commission of Wyoming
Chairman Mike Robinson
Deputy Chairman Chris Petrie
2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300
Cheyenne, WY 82001

September 9, 2025

Re: Docket No. 20004-174-ER-25; Record No. 17880

In the matter of the application of Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for a General Rate Increase of \$7,507,017 annually, or 24.36%, to its general electric utility rates

Dear Commissioners Robinson and Petrie,

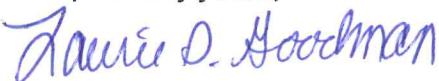
My name is Laurie D. Goodman and I reside at 17 Sandstone Circle, Sheridan, Wyoming. I am an intervenor in the cited Docket.

The Sheridan County Commissioners held a public meeting on September 4 regarding the Sheridan-Big Horn Transmission line construction project which is included as a \$3 million line item in the cited Docket Rate Increase request. This meeting was attended by Anthony Ornelas and his Deputy of the Office of Consumer Advocates. It was clarified at the meeting that the transmission line construction project, while not a stand-alone entity before the PSC, is in fact directly linked to the cited docket, given the \$3 million line item for the project is included in the rate increase request.

At the meeting, it became abundantly clear that MDU had not sufficiently considered several critical factors that will affect the greater Big Horn community forever, including, but not limited to, routing the high voltage transmission line through the County's Designated Scenic Viewshed of the Little Goose Canyon. Since the rate payers will be paying for this project, including the proposed $\frac{3}{4}$ mile portion of the project that could be buried as requested by the public, it is essential that construction of this project be ceased immediately and not resumed until a project re-design can be reached with the community, including its Commissioners are elected State officials.

We have written to the MDU President and CEO asking for cessation of construction and a meeting to discuss project redesign of the $\frac{3}{4}$ mile through the Scenic Viewshed. We have also petitioned the Sheridan County Commissioners to deny two licenses at their Sept. 16 meeting which would stop MDU from crossing Box Cross Road and continuing construction of the transmission line in the Scenic Viewshed and within 50-100' of adjacent homes (which lie outside of the easement.) **And now we are petitioning the PSC to require immediate cessation of this transmission line until an agreement on a project re-design can be reached with the County Commissioners.**

Respectfully yours,



Laurie D. Goodman

17 Sandstone Circle, Sheridan, WY 82801; 307.690.7691; Lgoodmanwyoming@gmail.com

Cc: Wyoming Office of Consumer Advocate
Sheridan County Commissioners
Sheridan County Planning and Zoning Commission
Sheridan County State Officials

Public Service Commission of Wyoming September
Chairman Mike Robinson
Deputy Chairman Chris Petrie
2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001

Re: Docket No. 20004-175-EC-25; Record No. 17929

Dear Commissioners Robinson and Petrie,

My name is Carmine LoGuidice and along with my wife Carol reside at 6 Roberts Drive, Sheridan, Wyoming 82801, aka Lot 6 of the Little Goose Subdivision. We would like to discuss with the PSC Frank & Georgia Boley's formal complaint which is recorded under Docket # 20004-175-EC-25.

In their formal complaint, the Boley's clearly state, "Because they have chosen this route (the Schunk Easement) the ONLY solution that the community would support is to bury the transmission line where it is slated to go off the current county road path, paid for by MDU". The PSU Complaint Description states, "This action represents an unfair taking from these residents". Along with the entire neighborhood, including the easterly neighboring Meadowlark Subdivision, Carol & I fully agree and support this complaint against MDU and hope to help MDU find a way to bury this transmission line around our western and southern borders.

In a letter to you from Laurie Goodman dated August 19, 2025, she states some of the impacts to an overhead transmission line includes "increased wildfire safety risks due to the location of portions of the line within 50-100' of existing homes, increased potential to adverse health impacts caused by electromagnetic fields to residents in existing homes that lie within 1000' of portions of the new line; an interruption to the historic viewshed of the Big Horn Mountains; and a 30-40% property devaluation for the same adjacent homeowners according to Century 21 local realtor Roger St. Clair". The Boley complaint has supplied supporting documentation to the property devaluation issue.

As stated, we support the ideas mentioned above but there is a disturbing back story to the complaint that is getting louder and more desperate. As MDU continues to move forward with this project as witnessed by their Motion to the PSC for Dismissal of Formal Complaint, property owners such as the Boley's and Ms. Goodman are openly suggesting that if the line can't be buried in the Schunk Easement, then it should be moved to an alternate route. Ms. Goodman has been advocating for this all along in letters to MDU and the PSC, Letters to the Editor in our local newspaper and vocally at numerous County Commissioner Meetings and neighborhood gatherings. At a September 16th Sheridan County Commissioners meeting an attorney hired by the Boley's, Mr. Mike Lansing, told the audience and Commissioners that he has asked the PSC and MDU to consider moving the proposed line to alternate routes such as the Upper Road. Let us not forget that the Formal Complaint said, "the ONLY solution the community would support is to bury the transmission line".

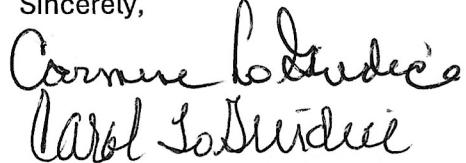
This section of the Upper Road is where my property is located along with 4 other lots in the 2 subdivisions. It is along this stretch of the Upper Road where the Meadowlark Subdivision lies to the East. It is along this stretch of road where there are presently no existing power lines or poles and MDU doesn't have an adequate transmission line easement to construct this project. MDU would be forced to "Take" lands from 5 lot owners to erect their transmission line and consequently destroy or severely impact all improvements and landscaping within their newly acquired easement. This transmission line would be about 100' from their homes and right in their southern view of the mountains where there are no lines at present. The numerous property owners in the Meadowlark Subdivision would forever have a transmission line directly in their view of the Big Horn Mountains to the south and west where there are no lines at present.

The Boley complaint and Ms. Goodman have stated many good reasons why this transmission line needs to be buried in the Schunk Easement, but it is very disturbing to many other property owners that they suggest that to relieve them of all negative impacts that it is OK to relocate the project to another area in the neighborhood should it not be buried. A relocation that would have other property owners suffer negative consequences such as property devaluation and viewshed impairment.

Now that the Sheridan County Commissioners have denied MDU's permit requests to cross over county roads there will be some intense negotiations between all parties involved. I have the names and lot numbers of at least 16 property owners, whose names and signatures I will supply upon your request, who reject the idea of relocating the overhead transmission line outside of the Schunk Easement. A group of property owners who agree with the Boley's, Ms. Goodman, the County Commissioners and all others that the transmission line needs to be buried. We respectfully ask that the negotiations do not seriously include the idea of moving an overhead transmission from one end of a neighborhood to the other end, a move that would have an equally negative impact on one group as it would have on the other. We pray that we can, as a group, help MDU find the way to bury this line.

Thank you for your time and understanding.

Sincerely,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The top signature reads "Carmine LoGuidice" and the bottom signature reads "Carol LoGuidice".

Carmine & Carol LoGuidice



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MICHAEL ARZY • CHRISTI HASWELL • HOLLY JENNINGS • NICK SIDDELL • LONNIE WRIGHT

September 22, 2025

Wyoming Public Service Commission
2515 Warren Ave., Suite 300
Cheyenne, WY 82002

To whom it may concern:

The Sheridan County Board of County Commissioners is writing this letter in opposition to Montana-Dakota Utilities (MDU) installation of an overhead transmission line through the Schunk easement. Our opposition for the section that will be installed along the eastern property line of land deeded to Rosemary Schunk, adjacent to two subdivisions located in close proximity to the east of MDU's recently acquired easement from Mrs. Schunk. This is not an opposition to the need for the line or its installation across existing easements that are currently being used for utility lines by MDU. There are a few options that MDU has available to complete the project but without interfering with pristine land that will devalue innocent parties' residential properties.

On September 4th, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. the Sheridan County Board of County Commissioners hosted an informal meeting with MDU on the transmission project. Representatives of the Office of Consumer Advocate were in attendance. At this meeting, several concerns were voiced by property owners from the surrounding area. Those concerns were in opposition to an overhead transmission line and its negative effects on property valuation, safety, fire hazard, and impact to wildlife, as well as a negative impact on the viewshed. Most landowners were not opposed to the entire project but specifically to the route through native, undisturbed land.

On September 16, 2025, we denied two license applications from MDU to install overhead transmission lines within county road rights-of-way pursuant to W.S. 1-26-813. However, we are also aware that the Public Service Commission has the exclusive responsibility of regulating public utilities. We are not seeking to regulate this public utility but request that the MDU transmission line follow an alternative route that does not negatively affect the residents of Sheridan County as well as the general viewshed.

We would encourage the Public Service Commission to help Sheridan County to protect our core values by granting permission to Montana-Dakota Utilities to install this line in an alternative route through existing easements. Allowing the current route through the Schunk easement, which was acquired after all adjacent lots were purchased and homes were built, will greatly diminish property values.

Sincerely,

Lonnie J. Wright
Chairman – Board of County Commissioners

Received

SEP 26 2025

Public Service Commission
Wyoming