Dock

Service Date: March 1, 1994

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

* * * * * *

IN THE MATTER of the Application of MDU RESOURCES GROUP, INC. for Authorization for the Issuance of $60,000,000 of First Mortgage Bonds and/or Secured Medium Term Notes.	))))))	UTILITY DIVISION DOCKET NO. 94.2.7 DEFAULT ORDER NO. 5775

On February 10, 1994, MDU Resources Group, Inc. (Applicant or Company) filed an application with the Montana Public Service Commission (Commission) seeking authority to issue not to exceed in an aggregate $60,000,000 principal amount of one or more series of its First Mortgage Bonds under its Indenture of Mortgage, dated as of May 1, 1939, as amended, and/or secured medium term notes. The Bonds, or any secured medium term notes, will be issued pursuant to one or more supplemental indentures to the Mortgage and will be secured equally with other First Mortgage Bonds of the Applicant. The application was filed pursuant to §§ 69-3-501 through 69-3-507, MCA.

The application was supported by exhibits and data in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Commission governing the authorization of issuance of securities by electric and gas utility companies operating within Montana. For detailed information with respect to the general character of

Applicant's business and the territory served by it, reference is made to its annual report which is on file with the Commission.

At a regular open session of the Montana Public Service Commission, held at its offices on February 28, 1994, there came before the Commission for final action the matters in this Docket, and the Commission, having fully considered the application and data and records pertaining thereto on file with the Commission and being fully advised in the premises, makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Applicant is a corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Delaware and is qualified to transact business in the State of Montana.

2. Applicant is operating as a public utility as defined in § 69-3-101, MCA, and as such is engaged in furnishing electric and gas service in Montana.

3. The Commission has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the application under § 69-3-102, MCA.

4. The proceeds from the issuance of the First Mortgage Bonds and/or secured medium term notes will be used to finance the retirement of corporate securities, including the refunding of outstanding bonds, and other general corporate purposes.

5. The transactions proposed by Applicant (a) are consistent with the public interest; (b) are for a purpose or purposes permitted under the laws of

the State of Montana; (c) are necessary or appropriate for and consistent with the proper performance by Applicant of service as a public utility; and (d) will not result in a situation in which the aggregate amount of the securities outstanding and proposed herein to be outstanding will exceed the fair value of the properties and business of the Applicant.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The securities transactions proposed by Applicant, as herein authorized, will be for a lawful purpose and are consistent with the public interest; the same are necessary, appropriate and consistent with the necessary performance of Applicant of service as a public utility; the aggregate amount of securities outstanding and proposed to be outstanding will not exceed the fair value of the properties and business of the Applicant.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the Commission:

1. The application of MDU Resources Group, Inc. for authority to issue not to exceed in aggregate $60,000,000 in principal amount of one or more series of First Mortgage Bonds and/or secured medium term notes through November 2, 1995, is approved.

2. Section 69-3-507, MCA, provides that neither the issuance of securities by Applicant pursuant to the provision of this Order nor any other act or deed done or performed in connection therewith, shall be construed to

obligate the State of Montana to pay or guarantee in any manner whatsoever any securities authorized, issued, assumed or guaranteed hereunder.

3. The approval of this application shall not be construed as precedent to prejudice any future action of this Commission.

4. Issuance of this Order does not constitute acceptance of the Applicant's exhibits or other material accompanying the application for any purpose other than the issuance of this Order.

5. This Order shall be effective upon execution.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION at Helena, Montana this 28th day of February, 1994, by a 5 - 0 vote.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BOB ANDERSON, Chairman

BOB ROWE, Vice Chairman

DAVE FISHER, Commissioner

NANCY McCAFFREE, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kathlene M. Anderson
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: Any interested party may request that the Commission reconsider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See 38.2.4806, ARM.

MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

* * * * * *

I hereby certify that a copy of DEFAULT ORDER NO. 5775, in DOCKET NO. 94.2.7, in the matter of MDU RESOURCES GROUP, INC, dated February 28, 1994, has today been served on all parties listed on the Commission's most current service list by mailing a copy thereof to each party by first class mail, postage prepaid.

Date: March 1, 1994

Tina M Shorter

For The Commission