



CITY OF RAPID CITY

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701

Public Works Department

300 Sixth Street

Telephone: (605) 394-4165 FAX: (605) 355-3083

Web: www.rcgov.org

August 13, 2013

Jim Dishon
Montana Dakota Utilities
PO Box 1060
Rapid City, SD 57709

Dear Mr. Dishon:

As you know, we have become aware of damage to a water service line at 1905 38th Street; this situation was the subject of my letter dated July 12, 2013. A portion of the copper line to that home failed only seven years after its installation, and the damage appears to have been caused by corrosion from an MDU anode bed buried below the water service line. The City has no indication in its records that MDU told the City of the location of the anode bed, either through MDU's review of the Schamber Addition Water Main Extension Project plans prior to construction or through locates requested by the contractor via SD OneCall.

I am writing to request assurances from MDU that, in the future, it will disclose all of its facilities, including anode beds. My request is based on concerns from elected officials and from staff that steps need to be taken to minimize the chances that what happened at 1905 38th Street not occur again. It appears that MDU has numerous anode beds located throughout the City which could have a detrimental corrosive effect on nearby utilities; it would also be apparent that these possible damages can be minimized by the City if it knows about the anode beds and can accommodate their locations in its installation of its utilities. For those reasons, I am seeking your assurances that the individuals reviewing City plans prior to construction will be aware of all relevant facilities, including anode beds, and that such facilities will be disclosed to the City as a result. I also seek your assurance that all MDU facilities will be disclosed pursuant to SD OneCall locates and that all necessary information will be relayed to the independent contractors who MDU hires to conduct the locates pursuant to SD OneCall requests.

I look forward to hearing from you as to how you will respond to my request for assurances and whether MDU will agree to provide notice regarding its anode beds and similar facilities in the future. I hope you can agree that it is in the best interests of everyone for utilities to provide each other with all necessary and relevant information in order to prevent future problems for ourselves and for our customers.

Sincerely,

Terry Wolterstorff
Director of Public Works

cc: Mayor Sam Kooiker



EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER