

FINDING OF NO PRACTICABLE ALTERNATIVE MONTANA DAKOTA UTILITY CO., CONSENT TO CROSS

Proposed Action:

The proposed action is to grant Montana Dakota Utility Co. (MDU) a Consent to Cross Ellsworth's 16" waterline easement (USAF-FXBM-9-12-668) . MDU is proposing to cross the waterline easement where the waterline crosses Elk Vale Rd, Rapid City, SD. See attached map illustrating the location of the crossing.

Purpose and Need for the Proposed Action:

The Purpose and Need for the proposed action is to allow MDU to expand its service area and capabilities. Allowing this crossing would facilitate the growth of both Rapid City and Box Elder.

Location and Proposed Action:

MDU's natural gas line would cross Ellsworth's waterline easement in the where the waterline crosses Elk Vale Road. The proposed crossing location is located in the 100 year floodplain. See the attached map illustrating the location of the crossing with respect to the floodplain. There are no jurisdictional wetlands in the vicinity of the crossing. MDU will direct bore to install the gas line.

Conclusion:

The proposed action is the only alternative. See attached AF813.

Statement of No Practicable Alternative:

Pursuant to Executive Order 11988 Floodplain Management, and the Authority delegated to me in Secretary of the Air Force Order 791.1, and taking the above information into account, I have determined that there is no practicable alternative to this action and that the proposed action includes all practicable measures to minimize harm to the floodplain environment.

GARY D. CHESLEY, Colonel, USAF
Deputy Director, Installation and Mission Support

