NDIC appoints Stomberg as Transmission Authority Director

BISMARCK - The North Dakota Industrial Commission has appointed Andrea Stomberg as director of the North Dakota Transmission Authority.

“Her experience in the electric utility industry provides her with a wealth of knowledge regarding transmission,” Commission members said in a joint statement. “She has a clear understanding of the transmission issues currently facing North Dakota as well as the region.”

The Commission noted that Stomberg was a member of the team that worked on the power study conducted by the Transmission Authority in 2012.

Stomberg earned a bachelor of science degree in geological science from the University of Washington, a master’s degree in soil chemistry from Oregon State University and a master’s of management degree from the University of Mary. She joined MDU as an environmental specialist in 1990 and served as the vice president of electric supply from 2004 until her retirement in January 2014.

The 2005 North Dakota Legislature established the Transmission Authority to “facilitate, finance, develop and acquire” transmission infrastructure in North Dakota. Created to build transmission capacity in the absence of other developers, the authority may own transmission lines and contract for their construction and operation with financing from revenue bonds. It is considered “a builder of last resort,” meaning private business has the first opportunity to invest in and to build additional needed transmission.

By statute, the three-member Industrial Commission - Governor Jack Dalrymple, Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem and Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring - comprises the Transmission Authority.

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