



UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549-7010

March 31, 2009

Mr. Vernon A. Raile
Chief Financial Officer
MDU Resources Group, Inc.
1200 West Century Avenue
Bismarck, North Dakota 58506-5650

Re: MDU Resources Group, Inc.
Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2008
Filed February 13, 2009
Schedule 14A
Filed March 10, 2009
File No. 1-03480

Dear Mr. Raile:

We have reviewed the above filings and have the following comments. Please provide a written response to our comments. Please be as detailed as necessary in your explanation. In some of our comments, we may ask you to provide us with information so we may better understand your disclosure. After reviewing this information, we may raise additional comments.

Please understand that the purpose of our review process is to assist you in your compliance with the applicable disclosure requirements and to enhance the overall disclosure in your filings. We look forward to working with you in these respects. We welcome any questions you may have about our comments or any other aspect of our review. Feel free to call us at the telephone numbers listed at the end of this letter.

Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008

Risk Factors

1. We note that, on May 28, 2008, you filed a registration statement to issue from time to time common stock or debt securities and that your board of directors has authorized the issuance of up to \$1.0 billion in registered securities. In future filings, please discuss any material risks associated with the issuance of the authorized securities, including the dilutive effect of the authorized common stock.

Closing Comments

Please respond to these comments within 10 business days or tell us when you will provide us with a response. Please furnish a letter that keys your responses to our comments and provides any requested information. Detailed letters greatly facilitate our review. Please understand that we may have additional comments after reviewing your responses to our comments.

We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes all information required under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and that they have provided all information investors require for an informed investment decision. Since the company and its management are in possession of all facts relating to a company's disclosure, they are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosures they have made.

In connection with responding to our comments, please provide, in writing, a statement from the company acknowledging that:

- the company is responsible for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosure in the filing;
- staff comments or changes to disclosure in response to staff comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the filing; and
- the company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States.

In addition, please be advised that the Division of Enforcement has access to all information you provide to the staff of the Division of Corporation Finance in our review of your filing or in response to our comments on your filing.

Please contact Douglas Brown at (202) 551-3265, or me at (202) 551-3745 with any other questions.

Sincerely,

H. Roger Schwall
Assistant Director