Doctors, nurses, and clean energy leaders in North Dakota agree on one simple fact: **clean energy can help North Dakotans breathe easier.**

Right now, Montana-Dakota Utilities (MDU), Bismarck’s electricity service provider, operates the Heskett coal-fired power plant, located right across the Missouri River from Bismarck and north of Mandan. Pollution from burning coal is linked to asthma attacks, severe respiratory problems, lung disease and heart complications.

At more than 60 years old, Heskett is one of MDU’s oldest generating plants in daily operation. Heskett is an old, dirty power plant that has outlived its usefulness. The electricity it supplies could easily be replaced through energy efficiency initiatives and investments in clean energy that will be less damaging to public health in the Bismarck and Mandan communities.

North Dakota, ranked third in the US in 2011 for percentage of electricity derived from wind⁴, is a trailblazing state when it comes to developing clean energy like wind and solar. Aside from bolstering local economy and creating jobs, investing in clean energy will make Bismarck’s air clean and safe for families.

**PLEASE JOIN US** in our campaign to encourage Montana-Dakota Utilities to be a good neighbor by transitioning our community beyond coal and investing in clean energy.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**, please visit sierraclub.org/coal/nd or contact Wayde Schafer at wayde.schafer@sierraclub.org or 701-530-9288.

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