

documented health impacts and morbidity caused by those events.⁵ The MATS RTR places the portion of the grid serving North Dakota in jeopardy of failure and resulting consequences.

68. With respect to MRY, Minnkota would anticipate a loss of jobs. Minnkota employs approximately 200 people in the vicinity of Center, North Dakota. In addition, subcontractors provide services to the plant on a regular basis. The nearby BNI Coal mine would be impacted or possibly close because it sells lignite to MRY. On information and belief, BNI employs approximately 178 persons at the mine. In total, the direct cost to the community from the loss of employment would be staggering. Impacts from the loss of jobs in the area would have a ripple effect on ancillary industries, such as nearby service stations, reduced demand for customer services, and the social and psychological impacts of job loss on the affected individuals and their families. Premature retirement of units

⁵ See, e.g., Hanchey, "Mortality Surveillance During Winter Storm Uri, United States – 2021," Disaster Med Public Health Prep (Dec. 2023), <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/37974501/>; Sharma, "Winter Storm Elliott death toll climbs to 56 as thousands still without power in -40 temperatures," Yahoo News (Dec. 26, 2022), <https://www.yahoo.com/news/winter-storm-elliott-power-outages-154557710.html>.