

Indeed, the Department of Defense runs global military operations from domestic bases. Operations require a resilient and dependable power supply for mission readiness. Back home, on-base generation and microgrids are necessary to support the thousands of military workers working and living on- and off-base, including the goods and services that support those communities.²² Power outages destabilize the military defense.

Specifically, North Dakota has three active military installations, critical to the U.S. military mission. North Dakota's military presence is deeply rooted in its strategic location on the Great Plains, making it a key part of national defense since the 1800s. Over the years, the state has hosted numerous forts and installations, supporting military operations ranging from westward expansion to modern nuclear deterrence.²³

North Dakota's military bases are:

- Camp Grafton-- is a training site for the North Dakota National Guard, providing instruction for military personnel in engineering, logistics, and maneuver operations.
- Grand Forks Air Force Base—is the home to the 319th Air Refueling Wing, which operates KC-135 Stratotankers—providing vital aerial refueling to U.S. and allied aircraft worldwide.
- Minot Air Force Base—is a cornerstone of nuclear deterrence and is a key location for both strategic bombers and intercontinental ballistic missiles.

It serves the national security interests to ensure that these bases have reliable power delivery. Thus, maintaining a healthy grid in ND will ensure that the national security is preserved in Minnkota's service territory.

IV. Conclusion.

Minnkota appreciates the opportunity to present the reasons why the Young Station should be exempt from MATS RTR compliance requirements for a two-year period. We respectfully request your consideration and are happy to answer any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



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²² <https://acore.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/MGI-National-Security-Transmission-Factsheet.pdf>

²³ <https://www.veteranpcs.com/blog/what-military-bases-are-in-north-dakota>