

HILDESTAD TERRY D
 Form 4
 February 25, 2005

FORM 4

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
 Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
HILDESTAD TERRY D

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
**MDU RESOURCES GROUP INC
 [MDU]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
02/23/2005

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 President and CEO, Knife River

KNIFE RIVER CORPORATION, 1915 NORTH KAVANEY DRIVE

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 ____ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

BISMARCK, ND 58501

(City) (State) (Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | Price | |
| Common Stock | 02/23/2005 | | M | | 3,683 | \$ 19.8267 | 43,970 D |
| Common Stock | 02/23/2005 | | S | | 500 | \$ 27.22 | 43,470 D |
| Common Stock | 02/23/2005 | | S | | 3,183 | \$ 27.24 | 40,287 D |
| Common Stock - (401-k) | 02/23/2005 | | I | | 9,112.2185 | \$ 27.09 | 21,762.5025 I |
| Common Stock - (ESOP) | | | | | | | 7,723.92 I |

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|---|---------------|
| Common Stock-Restricted Stock | 5,925 | I | By Trustee |
|-------------------------------------|-------|---|---------------|

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Empl. Stock Opt. (Right to Buy) | \$ 19.8267 | 02/23/2005 | | M | 3,683 | 02/12/2004 ⁽¹⁾ 02/15/2011 ⁽¹⁾ | Common Stock |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| HILDESTAD TERRY D KNIFE RIVER CORPORATION 1915 NORTH KAVANEY DRIVE BISMARCK, ND 58501 | | | President and CEO, Knife River | |

Signatures

Terry D Hildestad 02/25/2005

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

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- These options were originally exercisable 2/15/2010, but vesting of 3,683 was accelerated to 2/12/04 upon attainment of certain
- (1) performance goals. The balance of 45,997 options will vest on 2/15/2010, but vesting of some or all of these 45,997 may be accelerated depending on attainment of certain performance goals.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.