

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**

DISTRICT COURT

SOUTH CENTRAL JUDICIAL DISTRICT

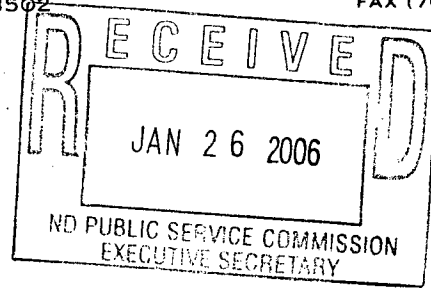
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BRUCE B. HASKELL  
JUDGE



January 24, 2006

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RE: Capital Electric Cooperative v. City of Bismarck, et. al.  
Burleigh County Civil 05-C-2303

Dear Counsel:

I note that a hearing has been scheduled in the captioned matter. While I understand that a party has a right to request a hearing, I would appreciate counsel explaining to me the necessity of a hearing. Each party has exhaustively and competently briefed the motions, responded to the briefs, and responded to the responses. I believe the issues are clear, and I am prepared to rule on the pending motions without a hearing that would delay the matter for over a month. Please inform me as soon as possible why a hearing is necessary.

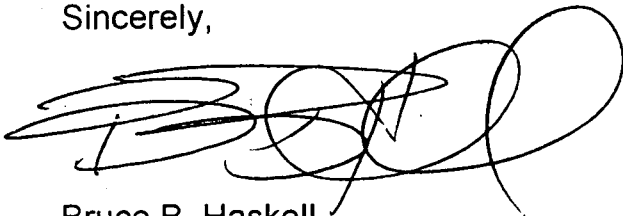
On a similar note: in the event of any future proceedings in this matter, it is not necessary for a party to provide yet more copies of documents already filed, such as the Complaint, Answers, or the materials connected with the petition before

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the PSC. Incorporation by reference or other appropriate reference to those documents is sufficient. Otherwise, the file will soon become unwieldy. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "BBH", with several large, overlapping loops and flourishes.

Bruce B. Haskell  
District Judge

BBH/ls