

Al Wahl

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March 3, 2009

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Mr. Brian R. Bjella  
Crowley Fleck, PLLP  
P. O. Box 2798  
Bismarck, ND 58502-2798

Mr. Derrick Braaten  
Sarah Vogel Law Firm  
222 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Bismarck, ND 58501-4004

Mr. Paul Blackburn  
Plains Justice  
P. O. Box 251  
Vermillion, SD 57069

Re: Dakota Resource Council, *et al.* v. GTL Dakota Plant 1, LLC  
North Dakota Public Service Commission Case No. RC-09-32  
OAH File No. 20090071

Dear Counsel:

As you have been advised, I am the administrative law judge designated by the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH), upon temporary appointment, pursuant to the request of the North Dakota Public Service Commission to serve as the hearing officer for the captioned matter. I am a retired administrative law judge, and I have neither an office nor regular office hours. The most efficient way to communicate with me is by e-mail, using the address shown above. You may send me documents as attachments to e-mail using either .doc or .pdf format. This e-mail account is available only to me and is used only for my work as an administrative law judge. You may also, of course, telephone me using the number shown above. Documents sent to me by courier or the U. S. Postal Service should be sent to the street address shown above. (Sending documents for me to OAH may delay my receipt. Note also, please, that documents to be filed are to be sent to the commission for filing, and that I do not routinely receive copies of documents filed with the commission.)

I will advise OAH staff if I will be unavailable at any time for more than 24 hours, and in that case you will receive a response to e-mail sent to me advising that I am unavailable. More specific information concerning my unavailability may be obtained from OAH staff. As you know, in my absence Judge Hoberg can act for me for any urgent matter.

I will appreciate your e-mail confirmation of this letter so that I will have your e-mail address. If you do not do your own scheduling, please also advise me of the name and telephone number of the person who should be contacted to schedule matters such as a pre-hearing conference, a motion hearing, and the like. And, of course, please advise me as necessary to correct any error for the use of your name, firm name, or post office address.

Mr. Brian Bjella, Mr. Derrick Braaten,  
and Mr. Paul Blackburn

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Thank you for your assistance. I look forward to working with you for the conduct of this hearing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Al Wahl", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Al Wahl  
Temporary Administrative Law Judge

pc: Ms. Illona A. Jeffcoat-Sacco  
North Dakota Public Service Commission