



OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
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Bismarck, North Dakota 58503

Allen C. Hoberg
DIRECTOR

April 29, 2011

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RECEIVED

MAY 02 2011

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Illona Jeffcoat-Sacco
General Counsel
Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505

Dear Ms. Jeffcoat-Sacco:

Thank you for your April 28, 2011, request of the designation of an administrative law judge from the Office of Administrative Hearings to conduct a hearing in the matter of Otter Tail Power Company (PU-09-676 and Northern State Power Company (PU-09-678). I hereby designate Al Wahl to be assigned as a contract administrative law judge to conduct the hearing in regard to this matter. Because the contract administrative law judge will not be making recommended findings of fact and conclusions of law, or issuing a recommended order, the person or persons who will be making the final administrative decision in regard to this matter (*i.e.*, the commission) must be in attendance at the hearing.

Please send all additional relevant documents (correspondence, and other pleadings and documents) to the designated administrative law judge in care of 138 East Edmonton Drive, Bismarck, North Dakota 58503. I understand the hearing is not yet scheduled but that you will contact Al Wahl regarding potential dates prior to scheduling. Because the administrative law judge is requested to conduct the hearing only, the agency must give proper notice of the hearing.

Your request has been assigned OAH File Nos. 20110180 (Otter Tail) and 20110181 (Northern States Power). Please include these numbers on all future documents and correspondence filed for these matters with the Office of Administrative Hearings.

Sincerely,

Allen C. Hoberg
Director

ACH/lmw

cc: Lawrence Bender for Northern States Power
Mark Bring for Otter Tail Power Company
Al Wahl, Administrative Law Judge

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Letter designating Administrative Law Judge
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