



OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
 STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
 1707 North 9th Street
 Bismarck, North Dakota 58501-1882

Allen C. Hoberg
 DIRECTOR

701-328-3260
 Fax 701-328-3254
 oah@nd.gov
 www.nd.gov/oah

January 27, 2010

RECEIVED

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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

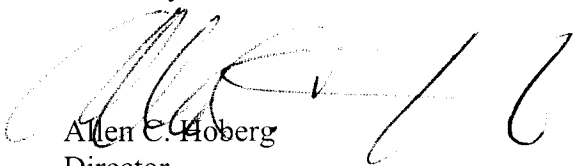
Dear Ms. Jeffcoat-Sacco:

Thank you for your January 26, 2010, request of the designation of an administrative law judge from the Office of Administrative Hearings to conduct a hearing in the matter of Montana Dakota Utilities Company, PU-09-733. I hereby designate Al Wahl to be assigned as 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 contract administrative law judge in care of 138 East Edmonton Drive, Bismarck, North Dakota 58503. I understand the hearing has not yet been scheduled and that you will notify the contract administrative law judge when the hearing is scheduled. Because the contract 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 No. 20100032. Please include this number on all future documents and correspondence filed for this matter with the Office of Administrative Hearings.

Sincerely,



Allen C. Hoberg
 Director

ACH/lmw

cc: Daniel Kuntz, Montana Dakota Utilities Company
 Al Wahl, Administrative Law Judge

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PU-09-733 Filed: 1/28/2010 Pages: 1
Letter Designating Al Wahl as Administrative Law Judge