



OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
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DIRECTOR

August 1, 2011

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RECEIVED

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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

Dear Ms. Jeffcoat-Sacco:

Thank you for your July 29, 2011, request of the designation of an administrative law judge from the Office of Administrative Hearings to conduct a hearing in the matter of Allete, Inc. Bison 3 Wind Project, PU-11-162. 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 the 138 East Edmonton Drive, Bismarck, North Dakota 58503. I understand the hearing is scheduled for September 15, 2011. 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 No. 20110299. 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: Mitchell Armstrong, Special Assistant Attorney General
David Moeller, Minnesota Power