



**OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS**

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
2911 North 14th Street - Suite 303  
Bismarck, North Dakota 58503

Allen C. Hoberg  
DIRECTOR

January 5, 2012

701-328-3200  
Fax 701-328-3254  
oah@nd.gov  
www.nd.gov/oah

**RECEIVED**

JAN 06 2012

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Mark Gruman  
Legal Counsel  
Public Service Commission  
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Dear Mr. Gruman:

Thank you for your January 4, 2012, 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., PU 11-620. I hereby designate myself, Allen C. Hoberg, to be assigned as an administrative law judge to conduct the hearing in regard to this matter. Because the 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 Office of Administrative Hearings, 2911 North 14th Street- Suite 303, Bismarck, ND 58503. I understand the hearing is tentatively scheduled for March 5, 2012. If this should change, please contact the administrative law judge prior to rescheduling. 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. 20120004. 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: David Moeller, counsel for Allete, Inc.