



Timothy J. Dawson
DIRECTOR

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

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August 29, 2017

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Illona Jeffcoat-Sacco
General Counsel
Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480



Dear Ms. Jeffcoat-Sacco:

Thank you for your August 25, 2017, requests for the designation of an administrative law judge from the Office of Administrative Hearings to conduct a hearing in the matters of Northern States Power Company / PU-17-270, PU-17-271 / PU-17-322. I hereby designate Patrick J. Ward 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 contract administrative law judge in care of Zuger Kirmis & Smith, P O Box 1695, Bismarck, ND 58502-1695 Please contact the contract administrative law judge prior to scheduling the hearing. Because the contract administrative law judge is requested to conduct the hearing only, the agency must give proper notice of the hearing.

Your requests have been assigned OAH File Nos. 20170431 (PU-17-270), 20170432 (PU-17-271) and 20170433 (PU-17-322). Please include these numbers on all future documents and correspondence filed for these matter with the Office of Administrative Hearings.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Dawson
Director

TJD/lmw

cc: Dave Sederquist, XCEL Energy
Zeviel Simpser, Briggs & Morgan
Patrick J. Ward, Administrative Law Judge

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Letter designating ALJ - Patrick Ward

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