

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**  
**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Public Service Commission  
Northern States Power Company  
Advance Prudence – Biomass PPAs  
Application**

Case No. PU-17-270

**Public Service Commission  
Northern States Power Company  
Deferred Accounting – Biomass PPAs  
Application**

Case No. PU-17-271

**Public Service Commission  
Northern States Power Company  
Deferred Accounting – Laurentian PPA Termination  
Application**

Case No. PU-17-322

**ADVOCACY STAFF’S RESPONSE TO NORTHERN STATE POWER’S  
APPLICATIONS FOR TRADE SECRET PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY  
STAFF’S APPLICATION FOR TRADE SECRET PROTECTION FOR JAMES A.  
HEIDELL’S TESTIMONY**


On June 30, 2017, NSP filed its applications in Case Nos. PU-17-270 and PU-17-271. Along with the applications, NSP requested certain information be granted trade secret protection. Advocacy Staff does not contest the designation of the requested information as “trade secret” in Case Nos. PU-17-270 and PU-17-271.

On August 10, 2017, NSP filed its application in Case No. PU-17-322. Along with its application, NSP requested certain information be granted trade secret protection. Advocacy Staff does not contest the designation of the requested information as “trade secret” in Case No. PU-17-322.

As Advocacy Staff has prepared its case and testimony in this case, it has entered into a *Non-Disclosure Agreements* with NSP in order to expedite discovery and the presentation of testimony. In that agreement, Advocacy Staff has agreed to also file any

information designated by NSP as trade secret in the manner allowed pursuant to N.D.A.C. ch. 69-02-09. Accordingly, Advocacy Staff requests Trade Secret designation to file the portions of James A. Heidell's testimony which contain trade secret information. Advocacy Staff relies upon the reasons provided for trade secret protection in NSP's applications for trade secret protection.

Dated this 27<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2017.

By:   
Mitchell D. Armstrong (ND. ID # 05892)  
Special Assistant Attorney General for PSC  
122 East Broadway Avenue  
P.O. Box 460  
Bismarck, ND 58502-0460  
Phone (701) 258-0630