



Timothy J. Dawson
DIRECTOR

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

2911 North 14th Street - Suite 303
Bismarck, North Dakota 58503

August 7, 2017

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

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 4, 2017, 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 / PU-17-295. 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 request has been assigned OAH File No. 20170395. Please include this number on all future documents and correspondence filed for this matter with the Office of Administrative Hearings.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Dawson
Director

TJD/lmw

cc: Mitchell Armstrong, Special Assistant Attorney General
Karl Liepitz, MDU Resources Group, Inc.
Patrick J. Ward, Administrative Law Judge

20 PU-17-295 Filed: 8/8/2017 Pages: 1
Letter designating ALJ - Patrick Ward

Office of Administrative Hearings
Timothy Dawson, Director