



Timothy J. Dawson  
DIRECTOR

**OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS**

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

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January 14, 2019

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 January 8, 2019, request of the designation of an administrative law judge from the Office of Administrative Hearings to conduct a hearing in the matter of Northern States Power Company / **PU-18-430**. 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. 20190018. 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

9 PU-18-430 Filed 01/14/2019 Pages: 1  
Letter designating ALJ - Patrick J. Ward  
Office of Administrative Hearings  
Timothy Dawson, Director

cc: Dave Sederquist, Xcel Energy  
Zeviel Simpser, Briggs and Morgan  
Zachery Pelham, Pearce & Durick  
Mitchell Armstrong, Smith Porsberg Schweigert Armstrong & Moldenhauer  
Patrick J. Ward, Administrative Law Judge