

Thompson, Pamela J.

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Sent: Monday, August 25, 2025 12:16 PM
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Subject: Filing Accepted for Case: 08-2024-CV-03622; APH Farms, et al. vs. North Dakota Public Service Commission, et al.; Envelope Number: 6267587

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Filing Accepted

Envelope Number: 6267587

Case Number: 08-2024-CV-03622

Case Style: APH Farms, et al. vs. North Dakota
Public Service Commission, et al.



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Filing Details	
Court	Burleigh County
Case Number	08-2024-CV-03622
Case Style	APH Farms, et al. vs. North Dakota Public Service Commission, et al.
Date/Time Submitted	8/25/2025 11:23 AM CST
Date/Time Accepted	8/25/2025 12:15 PM CST
Accepted Comments	
Filing Type	Notice
Filing Description	Notice of Potential Conflict of Interest/Perceived Bias
Activity Requested	EFileAndServe
Filed By	Pamela Thompson
Filing Attorney	Brian Johnson

Document Details	
Lead Document	Notice of Potential Conflict of Interest - Perceived Bias.pdf
Lead Document Page Count	1
File Copy	View Document

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Public Service Commission

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August 25, 2025

Re: APH Farms, et al. vs.
North Dakota Public Service Commission, et al.

Case No. 08-2024-CV-03622

Notice of potential conflict of interest/perceived bias

There is a potential for a perceived concern of bias in the matter of APH Farms, et al. vs. North Dakota Public Service Commission, et al.

The case has been assigned to Judgeship No. 1 in the South-Central Judicial District to which the Honorable Marina Sphar has been appointed. I worked closely with Judge Sphar while I was employed by the Burleigh County States Attorney's Office. Judge Sphar was my direct supervisor and mentor, I have had a continued friendship with Judge Sphar, I volunteered assistance during her campaign, and in her appointment for District Court Judge.

While I am not directly involved with the ongoing appeal, I made filings in the case early on regarding protection of information. I do work with Mr. Pelham and PSC staff regarding the ongoing appeal while discussing the case and ongoing strategies as I am currently the only attorney on staff.

I wanted to make Judge Sphar and all parties involved of the potential conflict of interest/perceived bias.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Johnson", is written over a horizontal line.

Brian Johnson
Special Assistant Attorney General
North Dakota Public Service Commission
ND Bar ID 07937