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January 20, 2026

Christopher Martens  
General Counsel  
Public Service Commission  
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Dear Mr. Martens:

Thank you for your January 16, 2026, request of the designation of an administrative law judge from the Office of Administrative Hearings to conduct a hearing in the matter of Jason Sauer v. Falkirk Mining Company / RC-25-254. I hereby designate myself, Hope L. Hogan, to be assigned as an administrative law judge to conduct the hearing, make recommended findings of fact and conclusions of law, and issue a recommended order regarding this matter.

Please send all additional relevant documents (correspondence, and other pleadings and documents) to the designated administrative law judge in care of the Office of Administrative Hearings, 2911 North 14th Street- Suite 303, Bismarck, ND 58503. I understand that hearing is scheduled on February 11, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. CT in the PSC Hearing Room at the State Capitol in Bismarck, North Dakota.

**Your request has been assigned OAH File No. 20260015. Please include this number on all future documents and correspondence filed for this matter with the Office of Administrative Hearings.**

Sincerely,

Hope L. Hogan  
Director

cc: Jason Sauer via email [Jason.sauer.fl@gmail.com](mailto:Jason.sauer.fl@gmail.com)  
Wade Mann, counsel for Falkirk Mining Company via email [wmann@crowleyfleck.com](mailto:wmann@crowleyfleck.com)  
Hope L. Hogan, Administrative Law Judge

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Administrative Law Judge Designation Letter

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Office of Administrative Hearings  
Hope L Hogan