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January 30, 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 29, 2026, 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 Co. / PU-25-261. I hereby designate myself, Hope L. Hogan, to be assigned as an administrative law judge to conduct the hearing in regard to this matter. Because the 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 administrative law judge in care of the Office of Administrative Hearings, 2911 North 14th Street- Suite 303, Bismarck, ND 58503. Please contact the administrative law judge prior to scheduling the hearing. Because the 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. 20260038. Please include this number on all future documents and correspondence filed for this matter with the Office of Administrative Hearings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Hope L. Hogan".

Hope L. Hogan
Director

cc: Travis Jacobson, Montana Dakota Utilities via email
Randall Bakke, counsel for KEM Electric Coop via email
Hope L. Hogan, Administrative Law Judge

12 PU-25-261 Filed 02/02/2026 Pages: 1
Letter Designating Administrative Law Judge

Office of Administrative Hearings
Hope L. Hogan, Director

Hope L. Hogan DIRECTOR

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

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