From: <u>ben@downstreamresearch.com</u>

To: Bird, Rob

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for Associate Water Judge Candidate Bina Peters

Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2024 10:04:30 AM

I have known Bina Peters since 2016 when I worked for the State of Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. I have owned a private water consulting firm for the past 5 years and continue to work with Bina to this day. First, Bina is always courteous and respectful of other's time and expertise. To top it off, she is one of the most knowledgeable water right attorneys I know. What differentiates Bina from others in her field, is that she is not scared to ask questions and learn while working through a case. Often, Bina and I have calls just to ask each other questions about professional experiences or thoughts about a specific situation regarding water rights. Bina is humble and appreciative, which in my opinion, would be some of the best qualities of a person in the role of Associate Water Judge. The ability to understand and be respectful of others as well as having the skill set and knowledge that Bina has acquired through the years makes her the best candidate for the position; she is a pleasure to work with.

I would be happy to answer any questions or comments you may have moving through the process.

Sincerely,

Ben

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