Chief Justice of the Montana Supreme Court Montana Supreme Court 215 N. Sanders Street Helena, Mt 59601 rbird@mt.gov

RE: Associate Water Judge Position, Application of Bina Peters

Mr. Chief Justice,

I write in support of Bina Peters' application for the Associate Water Judge position with the Montana Water Court. Having known and worked with Bina since 2013, I believe that she has the knowledge, the requisite experience and the individual qualities to make an excellent water judge, and I hope that you will strongly consider her application.

As a former Water Master that worked with Bina at the Montana Water Court, I can personally attest to Bina's excellent work ethic, her balanced approach, her integrity and her consistent professionalism. After Bina left the Water Court to enter private practice, she has further developed an excellent reputation within the Montana State Bar, and in particular, the Montana water law community. Bina is well-regarded as a knowledgeable and hard-working practitioner that consistently represents her clients with grace and professionalism. Bina has a deep, working knowledge of a variety water law issues and has been involved in several significant cases that have furthered the development of Montana water law. Bina has 15 years of experience practicing water law both inside and outside the context of Montana's statewide adjudication, and she is greatly respected by both her clients and her colleagues.

Having also had the privilege of working with Bina as a council member of the Montana Water Law Section of the State Bar, I can attest to her generosity in sharing her time and knowledge to further the Montana Water Law community. Bina has donated countless hours and her personal energy and expertise to help grow a community of practitioners who are dedicated to the growing body of law related to Montana's most precious resource — its water.

In sum, I have no doubt that Bina would make an excellent Associate Water Judge. The Water Court and the Montana water bar would benefit by having Ms. Peters on the Court.

Respectfully submitted,

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