

From: [Kathy McDonnell](#)
To: [Bird, Rob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Associate Water Judge Applicants
Date: Thursday, December 12, 2024 5:00:15 PM

to:
Chief Justice
Montana Supreme Court
215 N. Sanders Street
Helena, Mt 59601

Honorable Chief Justice of the Montana Supreme Court:

Please accept my comments on the applicants for Associate Water Judge.

My name is Stephen P. McDonnell. I am a 72 year old, life long resident of Three Forks, MT. I am also a fourth generation farmer and rancher who owns land in Montana that has many water rights. As such, it is extremely important to me that the Water Court is staffed by competent and experienced people.

I would ask that you give consideration to the application of Bina Peters. Ms. Peter has represented me on water rights issues since 2016. I have found her to be extremely competent. Maybe equally import, her work is done promptly and correctly. I want to emphasize that as a Montana native with many years of real "in the trenches" experience, Ms. Peters would bring the kind of qualifications to the Water Court that is needed to get things done.

In conclusion, please accept my endorsement of Ms. Bina Peters for appointment as Associate Water Judge. Feel free to call me if you feel the need to discuss this issue further at 406-580-1841. I thank you for your time.

Respectfully,
Stephen P. McDonnell