



Minnesota Rural Electric Association



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November 23, 2022

Governor Tim Walz
Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan
75 Rev Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: MREA letter in support of Katie Sieben's reappointment to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

Dear Governor Walz and Lt. Governor Flanagan,

We represent the Minnesota Rural Electric Association, the statewide association looking out for the interests of all 50 of Minnesota's non-profit cooperative electric utilities. We write today to enthusiastically support Katie Sieben to be reappointed to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MN PUC or Commission) and to continue as Chair of the Commission.

In docket after docket over the course of Chair Sieben's first term, she has:

- Evolved Commission proceedings to be more inclusive and collaborative, ensuring that every voice in every docket is heard;
- Managed the Commission through some very difficult and complex cases such as Enbridge Line 3 and Winter Storm Uri;
- Led the MN PUC to unanimous decisions in foundational and wide-ranging integrated resource plans filed by Xcel Energy and Minnesota Power, thus accelerating the clean energy transition in Minnesota;
- Worked to ensure that all Minnesota customers of for-profit utilities are treated fairly in Commission rate proceedings and that the costs of these essential utility services are kept as low as possible;
- Been fearless in applying state law to the record in front of her, even in the face of significant controversy; and
- Trusted in the self-governance of Minnesota's electric cooperatives, refusing to extend the limits of Commission authority into the operation of these non-profit, member-owned, member-governed utilities.

For these and a host of other reasons, we strongly support Katie Sieben's reappointment to the Commission and to continue to be its chair.

With gratitude for all you do for Minnesota,



Darrick Moe, Chief Executive Officer



Mike Bull, Director of Policy and
Regulatory Affairs

cc: Jacqueline Congello
Director of Boards and Commissions
Walz/Flanagan Administration

David J. Osmek
State Senator

District 33



Minnesota
Senate

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

11/23/2022

Governor Tim Walz

C/O Jacqueline Congello

Director of Appointments

Office of Governor Walz

130 State Capitol

75 Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Blvd

St Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor,

This letter is in support of the re-appointment of Katie Sieben to the Public Utilities Commission of Minnesota. While I am sure you may receive many letters for Katie, I would bet you may be surprised by one from a senior member of the GOP Senate caucus, much less the President of the Senate.

I worked with Katie for 4 years as a senator, including 2 years as the Senate GOP ranking member for the Senate Energy & Environment committee. Sitting next to Katie, I got to know her and we had many discussions on a variety of topics relating to that committee. I found we agreed many times over what is best for Minnesotans. I also found that when we disagreed, it was on good logical grounds and we pleasantly agreed-to-disagree.

Katie was unanimously recommended to be confirmed by the Energy & Utilities committee I chaired for 4 years and confirmed on the Senate floor. As chair, I have met with PUC commissioners and monitored their ruling. While I may disagree with isolated items, I have found that her record is one that both Republicans and DFLers can support. She takes a very reasoned and thoughtful approach, and sees the long term needs of Minnesotans as the highest priority.

It is my honor to support Katie Sieben for re-appointment and hope she receives another term to serve our fellow citizens.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David J. Osmek", written in a cursive style.

State Senator David J Osmek
President of the Minnesota Senate

CC: Senator Kari Dziedzic
Senator Mark Johnson
Senator Nick Frentz



Legal Services Advocacy Project
970 Raymond Avenue, Suite G-40
St. Paul, MN 55114

November 12, 2022

The Honorable Tim Walz and the Honorable Peggy Flanagan
Governor and Lt. Governor
130 Capitol
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Gov. Walz and Lt. Gov. Flanagan:

I write to enthusiastically endorse the candidacy of Ms. Katie Sieben for reappointment both to Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and as its Chair. Chair Sieben's tenure to date as Commissioner and Chair has been distinguished by excellence, integrity, propriety, and fairness. While at all times appropriately balancing the interests of utilities and consumers, she is also always and admirably mindful of the interests of residential and business ratepayers.

As a former utility regulator for 15 years with the New York State Public Service Commission and as an advocate and attorney with Legal Aid over the last 24 years, I have had numerous opportunities to appear before the Commission and Chair Sieben. I have observed first-hand her expertise and skills as a Minnesota utility regulator. I have always found her to be thoughtful, knowledgeable, and deliberative. She exemplifies the most important qualities that a PUC Commissioner should demonstrate.

Further, as Chair, she has rightfully earned the trust of her colleagues on the Commission, as well as the admiration and respect of all the intervenors and other parties who appear before her. She manages Commission meetings and hearings with exceptional grace and efficiency, and seeks both opinions and consensus. Chair Sieben invites participation from intervenors, asks thoughtful questions, is an excellent listener, and facilitates each meeting and docket item with a firm yet open style. And, commendably, she has made strong efforts to increase public involvement in utility dockets.

Chair Sieben has steered the Commission and its staff with a steady hand. She has earned and deserves reappointment. Thus, I strongly urge you to return Chair Sieben to her position for another term. Thank you for your consideration of this letter of recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ron Elwood".

Ron Elwood
Supervising Attorney

c.c.: Jacqueline Congello, Director of Boards and Commissions