



CITIZENS UTILITY BOARD

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February 25, 2025

Senator Nick Frentz
95 University Avenue W.
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 2415
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for Confirmation of PUC Commissioners Ham and Partridge

Dear Chair Frentz:

I write on behalf of the Citizens Utility Board of Minnesota (CUB) to express our support for the confirmation of Public Utilities Commissioners Hwikwon Ham and Audrey Partridge. CUB is a nonprofit advocate for Minnesota's residential utility consumers. CUB advocates for affordable utility service, clean energy, and consumer protections, and frequently participates in proceedings before the Public Utilities Commission (PUC). At this time of great change within the energy sector, Minnesota needs regulators who are focused on rapid decarbonization while maintaining system reliability and protecting ratepayers. Commissioners Ham and Partridge both bring deep experience and thoughtful perspectives to the PUC's important work, and the state of Minnesota will be better off because of their leadership.

With his expertise in the MISO system, Commissioner Ham contributes critical expertise related to reliability, the expansion of the transmission system, and how Minnesota can cost-effectively utilize the regional grid. His background in economics informs the PUC's consideration of complex financial questions that underlie the important balance between utility business health and customer affordability.

Commissioner Partridge likewise brings many years of experience in the field. She deeply understands the opportunities and challenges facing energy providers today, including those specific to Minnesota's utilities. She is committed to decarbonization, to ensuring Minnesotans have equitable access to energy efficiency opportunities, and to ensuring energy-burdened households are treated fairly and in accordance with state law.

Thank you for scheduling Commissioners Ham and Partridge for a timely confirmation hearing in the Energy Committee. CUB is pleased to have the opportunity to support both appointees.

Sincerely,

Annie Levenson-Falk
Executive Director

cc: Members, Senate Energy, Utilities, Environment, and Climate Committee
PUC Chair Katie Sieben
PUC Commissioner Hwikwon Ham
PUC Commissioner Audrey Partridge
Will Seuffert, PUC Executive Secretary
Anna Johnson, Policy Advisory, Office of Gov. Tim Walz and Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan