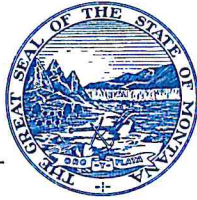


Montana Consumer Counsel



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December 10, 2021

Monica J. Tranel
Tranel Law Firm, P.C.
401 Washington Street
Missoula MT, 59802
mtranel@tranelfirm.com

Dear Ms. Tranel,

Thank you for your letter dated December 8, 2021, regarding the preservation of evidence related to the West Wind Fire and Hebgen Dam gate failure.

Our office is closely monitoring these events and how they may impact Montana ratepayers. At the appropriate time, our office will seek to participate in relevant proceedings as an advocate for ratepayers.

I appreciate your interest in these matters and invite you to call me with any questions.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jason T. Brown".

Jason T. Brown
Montana Consumer Counsel

Copy: Heather Grahame, NorthWestern Corporation
James Brown, Montana Public Service Commission
Austin Knudsen, Montana Attorney General
Chris Dorrington, Montana DEQ
Amanda Kaster, Montana DNRC