

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 98-1-5**

Date Prepared: December 31, 1997
For Work Week Commencing: January 5, 1998
Business Meeting Date & Time: January 5, 1998, 10:00 a.m.

General Introduction This agenda is the Commission's Utility Division agenda for the work week designated. In the later part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, deposited in the mail directed to all persons who have properly requested notice by mail, placed on the state electronic bulletin board, and posted to the PSC's world wide web site at <http://www.psc.mt.gov>.

Place of Meetings All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.

Inquiries General inquiries concerning this Utility Division agenda and subscribing to notice by mail may be made to Dennis Crawford at (406) 444-6182 or Dan Elliott at (406) 444-6187. They may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission Secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.

Work Sessions All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated (Dan).

1. MPC Docket D97.7.90 - Inform Commission of comments on Notice of Commission Action issued 12/24 and recommend procedural schedule and hearing date (1/6/98)
2. Weekly **AND** Monthly Scheduling Meetings - Will be held at 9:45 a.m. on the day of the Business Meeting

Action Items All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.

1. CLARK FORK TELECOMMUNICATIONS - Docket N97.12.234 (Kate)

On December 12, 1997, Clark Fork Telecommunications filed revisions to its tariff to introduce New Number Referral, to increase its Lifeline discount to reflect the changes made by the Federal Communications Commission, and to remove the intrastate toll section of the tariff because Blackfoot Communications will replace US West and Clark Fork as the default intraLATA carrier.

2. CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS - Docket N97.12.133 (Bonnie)

On December 11, 1997, Citizens Telecommunications Company filed Advice No. MT-97-13 introducing Digital Channel Service in response to customer demand. This service transmits and receives digital signals between the serving wire center and digital switching equipment located at the customer's premises. Effective date of the filing is 1/11/98.

3. SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY - Docket N97.12.236 (Bonnie)

On December 15, 1997, Sprint Communications Company filed revisions to its Interexchange Telecommunications Services tariff. The filing adds provisions to recover amounts collected for statutory or regulatory programs and introduces Sprint Sense AnyTime calling plan.

Notice Items All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, PO Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda.

1. PACIFIC POWER & LIGHT COMPANY - Docket N97.12.240 (Will)

On December 18 1997, PacifiCorp filed revised tariff sheets which cancel the Company's Residential Energy Efficiency Rider Schedule 6.

2. MONTANA POWER COMPANY - Docket No D97.3.55 (Will)

On December 14, 1997, MPC filed a report on its Helena Local Area Transmission Planning study. The report is one of two reports the Company agreed to file in its 1997 Integrated Least Cost Resource Planning Status Report. MPC requests that the PSC waive the requirement to file the second report on DSM Optimization.

3. PROJECT TELEPHONE COMPANY - Docket N97.12.237 (Kate)

On December 15, 1997, Project Telephone filed tariff revisions to reflect the changes made by the Federal Communications Commission to the Lifeline and Link Up programs.

4. VALLEY TELECOMMUNICATIONS - Docket N97.12.238 (Kate)

On December 15, 1997, Valley Telecommunications filed tariff revisions to reflect the changes made by the Federal Communications Commission to the Lifeline and Link Up programs.

5. CENTRAL MONTANA TELE. - Docket N97.12.242 (Kate)

On December 22, 1997, Central Montana Telecommunications filed a tariff revision to reflect the increased discount made available by the Federal Communications Commission for participants in the Lifeline program.

6. MDU RESOURCES GROUP INC. - Docket D97.12.248 (Eric)

On December 22, 1997, MDU filed an application seeking approval in the issuance of Common Stock to (1) use either the negotiated placement requirements or the competitive bidding requirements under 18 C.F.R. § 34.2 if MDU issues Common Stock in one or more public offerings and (2) to clarify the method of calculating the sales price of its Common Stock.

7. US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - Docket N97.12.243 (Vicki)

On December 22, 1997, USWC filed tariff pages introducing the residential Win-Back Program. Residential customers will be eligible for waivers of non-recurring charges and/or monthly service charges if they return to US WEST for their local service needs.

8. US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - Docket N97.12.241 (Bonnie)

On December 22, 1997, US WEST filed tariff transmittal 97-44, Revisions to Voice Messaging Service. The filing makes several minor changes to the offering of Business Voice Messaging and Voice Messaging service for residential customers.

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

MPC Docket D97.11.219 - NSA granting intervention to requesting parties was served December 23, 1997

PacifiCorp Docket D97.7.91 - NSA amending procedural schedule was served December 30, 1997

Tentative Action Items for Agenda 98-1-12

- Docket N97.12.237 Project Telephone (Kate)
- Docket N97.12.238 Valley Telecommunication (Kate)
- Docket N97.12.241 USWC (Bonnie)
- Docket N97.12.242 Central Montana Telecommunication (Kate)
- Docket N97.12.243 USWC (Vicki)
- Docket D97.12.248 MDU (Eric)

New Filings Received in Past Week

- N97.12.240 PP&L - Residential Energy Efficiency Rider
- N97.12.241 USWC - Revisions to Voice Messaging Service
- N97.12.242 Central Montana - Revisions to Lifeline Service
- N97.12.243 USWC - Residential Win-Back Program
- D97.12.244 Eclipse/USWC - Interconnection Agreement
- D97.12.245 USWC/BG Enterprises - Resale Agreement
- D97.12.246 USWC/Sterling International - Resale Agreement
- D97.12.247 USWC/United Properties - Resale Agreement
- D97.12.248 MDU - Security Issue
- N97.12.249 USWC - Revisions to CCI Factor - Bulk Bill - Due to EAS Conversions
- N97.12.250 Citizens - Revise text; interstate - intraLata
- D97.12.251 BHP&L - Quarterly Fuel Rate Rider