

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 98-6-01**

Date Prepared: May 28, 1998

For Work Week Commencing: June 1, 1998

Business Meeting Date & Time: June 1, 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. USWC Docket D97.7.125 - Flexible Pricing - Discuss issues to include in an order (6/2/98)
2. USWC Docket D97.5.87 - 271 Application - Address ongoing issues as they arise (6/2/98)
3. USWC Docket D96.7.121 - ISDN Tariff Filing - Consider Motion in Limine (6/2/98)
4. USWC Docket N98.3.65 - Service quality penalty fund - Discuss recommendations for spending the money (6/2/98)
5. Southern Montana Telephone Docket D97.11.225 - Consider motion to change procedural schedule and motion to amend application (6/2/98)
6. PacificCorp Docket D97.7.91 - Electric restructuring - Discuss unbundled rate design issues (6/2/98)
7. Montana Universal Access Program - Review status of FY98 Montana Universal Access Program (6/2/98)

8. Mountain Water Docket D98.5.104 - Motion for Protective Order - Action on Motion, approval of Protective Order (6/2/98)
9. Weekly Scheduling/Monthly Meeting - 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. SB396, GAS RULES - Docket L-97.1-RUL (Martin)

A draft notice of adoption of proposed rules implementing SB396 (gas utility restructuring) has been distributed and is for action.

2. CENEX INC. - Docket D98.5.99 (Joel)

On May 6, 1998 Cenex, Inc. filed for Commission approval of new tariffs reflecting its official name change from Cenex, Inc. to Cenex Harvest States Cooperatives. The existing rates, for all tariffs, will remain the same. Staff recommends approval.

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. Frontier Communications Services - Docket N98.5.112 (Tina)

On May 22, 1998, Allnet Communication Services, dba Frontier Communications, filed Transmittal No. 13 to increase the billing increments applicable to its Call Home America Service Option from six seconds to one minute. Frontier is also introducing an Option B to its Tandem Travel Card per minute charge.

2. MDU RESOURCES GROUP INC. DOCKET NO. D98.5.107 (Eric)

On MAY 20, 1998, MDU filed for authority to split its Common Stock three-for-two effective July 13, 1998. MDU will receive no proceeds from the issuance of additional shares resulting from the proposed split. MDU believes that the resulting lower market price per share will enhance the marketability and liquidity of the Common Stock.

3. LINDA VISTA WATER CO. - D98.4.84 (Dave)

On April 16, 1998, Linda Vista Water Company filed an application for a water main extension policy to their tariff, they are proposing a 40-year advance contract be used to fund an extension. This addition would also allow Linda Vista to acquire existing mains already in service and connected to their system, as an advanced contract under Rule 1. This filing was noticed to the public on May 22, 1998.

4. U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS - N98.5.113 (Wendy)

On May 20, 1998, U S WEST Communications filed a Tariff Transmittal 98-24 "Summer Solutions Promotion." The promotion will run from June 29, 1998 through August 8, 1998. It will offer a 50% installation charge waiver for residential customers who purchase an additional access line, up to two lines. It will also offer a \$20 coupon to customers purchasing CustomChoice Service. Residential customers who also purchase the Montana Value Calling Plan or Montana Value Calling Plan II will receive a \$20 coupon and a one month recurring rate waiver. A \$20 coupon and \$5 credit will be given to customers subscribing to CustomChoice and the Simple Value Plan.

5. U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS - Docket N98.5.111 (Nina)

On May 8, 1998, USWC filed Tariff Transmittal 98-21, "Caller ID Promotion". From May 18, 1998 through June 27, 1998, residence customers who are new subscribers to Caller Identification will receive a waiver of the nonrecurring charge when they purchase this feature. In addition, during the same time frame, residence customers who purchase a new additional line and purchase Caller ID on the new additional line, will receive a waiver of the nonrecurring charge and the first month of service monthly rate for the Caller ID. These promotions apply on all orders placed and / or completed during the promotional period.

6. AT&T - N98.5.110 (Bonnie)

On May 20, 1998, AT&T filed changes to their Montana tariff introducing the Universal Connectivity Charge, equal to 1.8% of residential customers' AT&T monthly intrastate charges, applicable to charges billed on or after July 1, 1998.

7. US WEST - N98.5.108 (Bonnie)

On May 20, 1998, US WEST filed Tariff Transmittal 98-23 introducing a new toll optional calling plan known as Simple Value. The plan has no monthly recurring rate and no minimum usage criteria. The rate is a flat rate per minute for on-peak and off-peak calling.

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

Tentative Action Items for Agenda 98-6-8

- N98.5.111 U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS (Nina)
- N98.5.110 AT&T (Bonnie)
- N98.5.108 US WEST (Bonnie)
- N98.5.113 U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS (Wendy)

New Filings Received in Past Week

- D98.5.107 MDU - Securities
- N98.5.108 USWC - Intro value call plan
- N98.5.109 MCI - Tariff Changes
- N98.5.110 AT&T - Universal connectivity charge
- N98.5.111 USWC - Caller ID promo
- N98.5.112 Frontier - Tariff revisions
- N98.5.113 USWC - Summer solutions promo