MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 98-10-5

Date Prepared: October 1, 1998
For Work Week Commencing: October 5, 1998
Business Meeting: October 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 Public Service Commission's worldwide web site located 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. Enron Energy Services Docket N98.9.209, Granite Peak Energy Docket N98.9.214 – Electric Supplier License Applications – Discuss/Act on applications (10/6/98)

2. L-98.5.1 – RUL – Utility Notice Rule (notice of proposed tariff changes) – Post hearing/comment period preliminary discussion of proposed rule on utility notice to consumers concerning tariff changes (10/6/98)

3. Cut Bank Gas Docket D98.8.179, Montana-Dakota Utilities Docket D98.8.177, Shelby Gas Company Docket D98.7.164 – Gas USBP – Update, discussion, direction, and action as necessary on all pending natural gas USBPs (10/6/98)

4. Great Falls Gas Docket D98.9.213 – Great Falls Gas Tracker – Act on GFG request for protective order, other matters as necessary, if necessary (10/6/98)

5. L-98.4.2 – RUL – T-Com rules – Discussion, direction, action on draft t-com service standard and other t-com rules (10/6/98)

6. USWC Docket D96.7.121 – ISDN – To make final recommendation, including possible "Fresh Look" alternatives, and discuss possible action (10/6/98)

Weekly Scheduling 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. U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS – Docket N98.9.205 (Nina)

On September 11, 1998, U S West Communications filed Tariff Transmittal 98-41, to introduce a business promotion entitled "Get Your Business on the Internet Promotion". This promotion offers (1) $25.00 off the nonrecurring charge when subscribing to an additional flat business line or an additional Rate Stabilized Centrex 21 analog line; (2) waiver of the nonrecurring charge and waiver of 1 month recurring rate when subscribing to the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) Address Listing or E-Mail Address Listing; and (3) $10.00 credit when subscribing to Volume Calling Connection or Business Daytime Connection Plus. The promotional period is Sept. 28, 1998 through Nov. 6, 1998. This was a notice item on 9/28/98. Staff recommends approval.

2. U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS – Docket N98.9.206 (Tina)

On September 11, 1998, USWC filed Tariff Transmittal 98-40 to introduce Business Continuous Routing as an alternative disaster recovery option.

3. US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - N98.9.207 (Kate)

On September 11, 1998, US West filed to revise its rate stability plans for Digital Switched Services and Primary Rate Interface ISDN in order to offer optional 3- and 5-year contract arrangements in addition to the existing 3- to 10-year 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, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda.

1. US WEST COMMUNICATIONS – Docket N98.9.215 (Vicki)

On September 25, 1998, US West filed tariff pages to introduce the new SMARTSET feature package for business customers. The package offers two options which are SMARTSET and SMARTSET PLUS. In conjunction with the introduction of the new package, all existing business Custom Calling packages except Call Manager Connection are being grandfathered and those packages with no active customers are being removed from the tariff.

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

Tentative Action Items for Agenda 98-10-13

U.S. West Communications - Docket N98.9.215 (Vicki)

New Filings Received in Past Week

N98.9.215 – U S West Communications – Tariff Trans 98-42 Smartset Feature Package
D98.9.216 – Black Hills Power & Light – Quarterly Rate Rider application