

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 99-7-26**

Date Prepared: July 22, 1999
For Work Week Commencing: July 26, 1999
Business Meeting: July 26, 1999, 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, emailed to all persons who have properly requested notice by email, and posted to the Public Service Commission's worldwide web site located at <http://www.psc.state.mt.us>.

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. Default Supplier Rulemaking – To discuss disclosure rulemaking as part of default supplier rulemaking (7/27/99)
2. N99.7.175 – Idaho Power Company electricity suppliers license application – Discuss/Act on application (7/27/99)
3. D99.4.86 – Fairmont Hot Springs water utility compliance filing – Action on request for extension of time to file initial application for tariffs until August 14, 1999 (7/27/99)
4. D98.9.213 – Energy West Montana, Final Order – Review final order (7/27/99)
5. D98.10.246 – Columbia Heights Water Company – Discussion and action as necessary on reporting and quality of service (7/27/99)

6. D99.5.129 (Billings) & D99.7.172 (Great Falls) EAS dockets for Billings and Great Falls regions – Update, discussion, action as necessary on pending EAS dockets (7/27/99)
7. L-99.4.4-RUL – Operator Services Provider Rules – Discussion and action on final rule draft, notice of hearing (7/27/99)
8. L-99.7.8-RUL – Cramming rules – Discuss proposed cramming rules (7/27/99)
9. Lawsuit-Speech Restrictions – Placeholder in case there are further developments in settlement discussions (7/27/99)
10. The Governor's Award for Excellence in Performance – open discussion for picking PSC outstanding employee and/or team (7/27/99)

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. US WEST COMMUNICATIONS – Docket No. N99.5.134 (DAVE)

On May 19, 1999, US West Communications filed Tariff Transmittal 99031, Individual Case Basis (ICB) Pricing for Guaranteed Rate Calling Connection Plan. US West states it is critical to be able to meet large customer needs quickly. By displaying their most competitive prices in a price list, readily accessible to competitors, US West feels it puts them at a great disadvantage. Qualifying customers are to be offered rates above cost, service will remain available for resale and all current contracts are to remain in effect.

2. BLACK HILLS POWER & LIGHT DOCKET NO. D99.7.167 (Eric)

On July 1, 1999, BHP&L filed a Quarterly Fuel Rate Rider application. A Notice of Opportunity for Public Hearing was issued on July 7, 1999. Requests for hearing were due by July 26, 1999. No requests have been received. This application will decrease rates by \$3,983 below the base cost of fuel approved in Docket No. 83.4.25. A default order has been drafted

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 COMMUNICAITONS DOCKET NO. N99.5.115 (Eric)

On May 5, 1999, US WEST filed Tariff Transmittal 99-26 for approval of its proposed "Centrex Prime Promotion" which is to run from May 24th through August 20th, 1999. Under the promotion, business customers who subscribe to Centrex Prime or add Centrex Prime station lines will receive a 50 percent discount of the non-recurring charges under a 36-59 month rate stability plan and a 100 percent waiver under a 60 month plan.

2. Montana Wireless, Inc & U S West Comm, Inc. D97.9.168 (SCOTT)

On July 13, 1999, Montana Wireless, Inc (MWI) and U S WEST filed for approval to amend its interconnection Agreement for service in the state of Montana. The Commission approved the original interconnection agreement in Order No. 6031 on December 1, 1997. The amendments are for terms, conditions, and rates and to amend the agreement to add ISDN Capable Loop provisions.

3. USWC Inc. & Avista Communications, Inc. Docket D98.10.252 (SCOTT)

On May 21, 1999, U S West Communications, Inc. & Avista Communications filed for approval to amend its interconnection Agreement for service in the state of Montana. Avista Communications was formally known as One Eighty Communications, Inc. The Commission approved the original interconnection agreement in Order No. 6135 on January 13, 1999. The amendments add language to Part (D)7 SPOT Frame Collocation.

New Filings Received in Past Week

N99.7.175 – Idaho Power Company – Idaho Power Co application for Electricity Suppliers License

N99.7.177 – Telecommunications Resellers Assn – Request to investigate anti-competitive service contract practices

N99.7.178 – Big Sky Power – Application for Electricity Suppliers License