

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 03-03-18**

Date Published: March 13, 2003
For Work Week Commencing: March 17, 2003
Business Meeting: March 18, 2003, 9:30 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 Steve Vick at (406) 444-6187. He 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.

1. D2002.9.120 – EWM – General Rate Case, Discussion, Direction, Action on Final Order. (3/18/03)
2. D2002.5.59 – MDU – General Rate Case, Discussion, Direction, Action on Final Order. (3/18/03)
3. PSC-MCC Fees. (3/18/03)
4. Commission/Act – Budget/Personnel (3/18/03)
5. L02.11.5-RUL – Default Supply Portfolio Planning and Resource Procurement Rules (3/18/03)
6. PSC – Protective Orders – Discuss PSC Protective Orders. (3/18/03)
7. Legislative/Budget (3/18/03)

Other Meetings

3/19/03 Legislative/Budget – Call of the Chair

- 3/19/03 – 1:45 p.m. – Meeting with Steve Wright**
3/20/03 – Call of the Chair – Legislative/Budget
3/20/03 – 2:00 p.m. – NWE Default Portfolio Planning Presentation
3/21/03 – Call of the – Chair Legislative/Budget
3/24/03 – 9:00 a.m. – Legislative/Budget

Weekly Scheduling Meeting – Will be held at 9:00 a.m. on the day of the Business Meeting

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

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. Public comments on a noticed matter may also be submitted within the required time through the PSC's web-based comment form at <http://psc.state.mt.us/PublicComment/PublicComment.htm>. Comments should reference the docket number of the matter.

1. QWEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC. N2003.3.28 (Leroy)

On March 4, 2003, Qwest Communications filed Tariff Transmittal 03-05, Telephone Assistance Program Revision. The revision is proposing new tariff language regarding application of the Telephone Assistance Program (TAP) to employee accounts with concession. The purpose of the filing is to insure employees or retirees qualified for TAP, and with either 100% or 50% concession for their local service, receive 100% TAP benefits less the amount of their concession discount. The reason for the change is that if the TAP benefit is not reduced by the amount of the concession, Qwest could be in the position of actually crediting an employee for more than the amount of the actual bill. This new tariff change cleans up a unique situation regarding a very limited number of Qwest employees and retirees that qualify for TAP. Qwest is requesting an April 3, 2003 effective date.

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

Tentative Action Items for Agenda 03-03-25

New Filings Received in Past Week

- N2003.3.28 – Qwest – Tariff Transmittal 03-05 – Telephone Assistance Program Revision
 D2003.3.29 – Energy West – Monthly Gas Cost Tracking Application
 D2003.3.30 – MDU – Application to Implement a Gas Cost Tracking Adjustment Change