

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 04-07-27**

Date Published: July 22, 2004
For Work Week Commencing: July 26, 2004
Commission Meeting: July 27, 2004, 9:00 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 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.

9:00 a.m. Weekly Scheduling (Commission Conference Room)

9:30 a.m. Business (Bollinger Room)

Public Comments

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

1. Qwest Long Distance N2004.7.109 (Scott)

On July 13, 2004, Qwest Long Distance (QLD) filed Tariff Transmittal QLDC04-03 Choice Long Distance Option. In this filing QLD is introducing a new option to the Choice Long Distance Plan for residential customers. The new option provides free long distance at night and on weekends if the residential customer subscribes to a qualifying Qwest wireless service. The proposed effective date for the new option in the region is August 1, 2004.

2. Qwest Communications Corporation N2004.7.110 (Scott)

On July 13, 2004, Qwest Communications Corporation (QCC) filed Tariff Transmittal QCC04-03 Choice Long Distance Option. In this filing QCC is introducing a new option to the Choice Long Distance Plan for residential customers. The new option provides free long distance at night and on weekends if the residential customer subscribes to a qualifying Qwest wireless service. The proposed effective date for the new option in the region is August 1, 2004.

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

1. D2004.7.119 – Qwest – Interconnection Agreement. (7/27/04)
2. N2003.12.175 – Qwest – Provisioning Agreement for Housing Developments (PAHD) Tariff Filing. (7/27/04)
3. D2004.7.112 – Blackfoot and OneEighty Communications – Petition for Expedited Standstill Order. (7/27/04)
4. D2004.3.39 – Montana Telecommunications Association, Montana Independent Telecommunications Systems, Ronan Telephone Company and Hot Springs Telephone Company – Wireline to Wireless Number Portability. (7/27/04)
5. Organization of MISO States' Comments to FERC – Discuss and Provide Direction for Proposed OMS Comments to FERC Regarding Reactive Power. (7/27/04)
6. D2003.8.109 - Montana Consumer Counsel and NorthWestern Corp. – Joint Motion for Entry of Consent Order. (7/27/04)
7. NorthWestern Energy Bankruptcy – Placeholder to Report on and Get Direction on Any Matter Related to the Bankruptcy. (7/27/04)
8. Personnel / Budget. (7/27/04)

Other Meetings**7/26/04 2:00 pm – Briefing on Grid West (Commission Conference Room)****7/28/04 1:00 pm – D2004.2.16 - Energy West Montana – West Yellowstone -
General Gas Rate Case Hearing (West Yellowstone)****7/29/04 6:00 pm – Triangle/Central EAS Hearing (Havre – MSU Northern –
Donaldson Common)**

Weekly Scheduling – Will be held at 9:00 a.m. on the day of the Commission 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. Project Telephone Company N2004.7.115 (Scott)

On July 15, 2004, Project Telephone Company filed replacement tariff sheets which take into account the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) new qualifying guidelines for the Lifeline Telephone Assistance Program.

2. Qwest Communications N2004.7.116 (Scott)

On July 16, 2004, Qwest filed Tariff Transmittal 04-09 Grandfather residence packages and introduce new ones. The packages being grandfathered are: PREFERREDCHOICE (including CONVENIENCECEPAK); Two-Line PREFERREDCHOICE (including CONVENIENCECEPAK); Qwest Choice Home, Two-Line Qwest Choice Home; VALUECHOICE (including PRIVACYPAK); and Two-Line VALUECHOICE (including PRIVACYPAK).

The new packages Qwest is introducing are: QWEST CHOICE Home, QWEST CHOICE Two-Line Home, QWEST CHOICE Home Plus, and QWEST CHOICE Two-Line Home Plus.

3. NorthWestern Corporation (NOR) D2004.7.118 (Eric)

On July 20, 2004, BHP filed an application seeking authority to consummate \$600,000,000 in exit financing and to issue up to 35.5 million shares of common stock. The Exit Financing Facilities will be secured by first mortgage bonds in the amount of (i) up to \$473 million issued under NOR's indenture covering its Montana public utility assets and (ii) \$127 issued under NOR's indenture covering the South Dakota public utility assets. The terms of NorthWestern's Reorganization Plan provide that debt owed to NorthWestern's senior unsecured creditors and subordinated unsecured bond holders totaling approximately \$1.2 billion will be canceled and exchanged for 35.5 million shares of common stock in reorganized NorthWestern. NOR's existing common stock will be canceled in accordance with the terms of the Reorganization Plan.

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

New Filings Received in Past Week

D2004.7.112 - Blackfoot Communications and OneEighty – Petition for Expedited Standstill Order
 D2004.7.113 – NorthWestern Energy – Monthly Gas Supply Cost Rate Adjustment
 D2004.7.114 – NorthWestern Energy – Monthly Electric Supply Cost Rate Adjustment
 N2004.7.115 – Project Telephone Company – Lifeline Tariff Filing
 N2004.7.116 – Qwest – Tariff Transmittal 04-09 Grandfather Residence Packages and Introduce New Ones
 N2004.7.117 – Qwest Communications Corporation (QCC) – Forbearance Application Regarding High/Mid Plains Pizza, Inc. (Pizza Hut)