

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
UTILITY DIVISION  
AGENDA NO. 05-06-28**

Date Published: June 23, 2005  
For Work Week Commencing: June 27, 2005  
Commission Meeting: June 28, 2005, 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 Kate Whitney at (406) 444-3056. She 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 Communications N2005.6.94 (Scott)

On June 2, 2005, Qwest filed Tariff Transmittal 05-12 Tribal Lifeline. This filing changes the eligibility requirements for Lifeline service to agree with the FCC requirements. Probable Motion: Approve Qwest's Tariff Transmittal 05-12 in Docket No. N2005.6.94.

2. CenturyTel of Montana N2005.6.95 (Scott)

On June 3, 2005, CenturyTel filed Tariff Transmittal 05-01 Tribal Lifeline. This filing changes the eligibility requirements for Lifeline service to agree

with the FCC requirements. Probable Motion: Approve CenturyTel's Tariff Transmittal 05-01 in Docket No. N2005.6.95.

3. NorthWestern Energy D2005.5.84  
(Will)

On May 20, 2005, NorthWestern Energy filed to adjust the BPA Residential Exchange Credit for residential and irrigation customers, pursuant to a tracking mechanism approved by the Commission in 2002 (D2002.6.64). The rate credit amount is derived from the amount of monetary benefits NWE receives on behalf of its residential and small farm customers from the Bonneville Power Administration under the terms of a settlement of the Residential Exchange provisions of the Northwest Power Act. The proposed adjustment would increase the credit from the current (\$0.001362)/kwh to (\$0.001550)/kwh.

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

1. **6/27/05 9:00 a.m.** – D2004.5.84 – June 28, 2005 Public Workshop on Intercarrier Compensation – Visit about the workshop and get any necessary direction in preparation for the workshop (Commission Conference Room). (6/27/05)
2. D2005.2.13 – Qwest and New Rochelle – Interconnection agreements – Correct actions taken at the April 26, 2005 work session regarding the TRO/USTA II amendment and the Implementation of Batch Hot Cut/Elimination of UNE-P amendment. (6/28/05)
3. D2003.12.170 – Western Montana Local Calling Coalition – EAS – Summarize staff/party meeting, PSC direction. (6/28/05)
4. N/A or D2004.6.89 – Qwest and Covad – Federal Court opinion on PSC decision to require that a Qwest/Covad Commercial Line Sharing Agreement must be filed for approval with the PSC pursuant to Section 252 of the federal telecom act – Review the court opinion and decide whether to appeal. Placeholder if Commissioners will not be available for work session to be held on Friday 7/1/05. (6/28/05)

5. D2003.4.49, D2004.4.55, D2004.5.69 – Montana-Dakota Utilities – Annual gas trackers – Status report, history, discussion, direction, action on procedures. (6/28/05)
6. N2005.6.101 – NorthWestern Energy – Draft natural gas procurement rules – Preliminary general discussion of draft rules, direction as necessary. (6/28/05)
7. L-05.03.1-RUL (formerly L-97.06.4-RUL) – Energy utility service standards – Discuss and action on draft notice of adoption. (6/28/05)
8. L-05.03.2-RUL (formerly L-04.07.3-RUL) – Rule on utility implementation of rate changes – Discuss and action on draft notice of adoption. (6/28/05)
9. N/A, 2004.7.99, D2004.12.192 – Energy utility USB review, status of pending cases – Discussion, direction, action on energy utility USB review. (6/28/05)
10. NorthWestern Energy Bankruptcy – Placeholder to report on and get direction on any matter related to the bankruptcy. (6/28/05)
11. D2005.4.50 – GRS Energy LLC – In the matter of the complaint by GRS Energy, LLC against NorthWestern Energy and NorthWestern Energy Development Corporation - Discuss and act on NorthWestern Energy's Motion to Dismiss and GRS's Request for Oral Hearing and Pre-hearing Discovery. (6/28/05)
12. D2004.2.21 – Montana Attorney General – In the matter of a Commission Investigation of Electricity Market Activity Affecting Retail Customers during the Period 2000 through 2001 - Discuss and act on Special Assistant Attorney General's (SAAG's) Motion for Order to Compel NorthWestern. (6/28/05)
13. **6/29/05 9:00 a.m.** – D2004.8.135 – Qwest – Competitive Response Tariffs – Discuss and act on the proposed tariffs (Commission Conference Room). (6/29/05)
14. **7/1/05 9:00 a.m.** - N/A or D2004.6.89 – Qwest and Covad – Federal Court opinion on PSC decision to require that a Qwest/Covad Commercial Line Sharing Agreement must be filed for approval with the PSC pursuant to Section 252 of the federal telecom act – Review the court opinion and

decide whether to appeal. Placeholder if work session is not held on Tuesday 6/28/05 (Commission Conference Room). (7/1/05)

### **Other Meetings**

#### **6/28/05 1:00 p.m. – Intercarrier Compensation Workshop (Bollinger Room)**

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.mt.gov/Consumers/comments>. Comments should reference the docket number of the matter.

1. Qwest Services Corporation N2005.6.98 (Kim)

On June 10, 2005 Qwest filed for Commission approval a Master Service Agreement (MSA) between Qwest and McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc. This filing was submitted pursuant to *Section 2.18 - Volume and Term Discounts to Large Business Customers with a Multi-State Presence* of Qwest's Exchange and Network Services Tariffs. The MSA is the result of a competitive bidding process to provide Integrated Services Digital Network Primary Rate Service (ISDN PRS) and Digital Switched Service (DSS) services.

2. Southern Montana Telephone Company N2005.6.99 (Scott)

On June 9, 2005 Southern Montana Telephone Company filed revision to its tariffs for Tribal Lifeline. This filing changes the eligibility requirements for Lifeline service to agree with the FCC requirements.

3. CenturyTel N2005.6.100 (Scott)

On June 14, 2005 CenturyTel filed Tariff Transmittal 05-02. The purpose of this filing is to add rates to the Emergency Communications Services section of the tariffs.

4. Qwest N2005.6.102 (Scott)

On June 17, 2005, Qwest filed Tariff Transmittal 05-13 Introduction of Public Response Calling Service (PRCS). This service will be provided to new customers who incur a high volume of traffic over the network that could result in possible interference with the service of other customers.

**Protective Orders – Notice Items** The Commission has received the following requests for protective order pursuant to ARM 38.2.5007. The Commission will rule on the requests no earlier than 10 days after the publication date of this agenda. Comments on the requests may be submitted at any time prior to ruling. Any person interested in seeking a copy of a protective order request should contact the Commission at 406-444-6199.

**Protective Orders – Information Items** The Commission has issued the following protective orders. These orders may be challenged pursuant to ARM 38.2.5008.

**Information Items** All items identified below are for information only.

**New Filings Received in Past Week**

N2005.6.98 – Qwest Corporation – Master Service Agreement between Qwest and McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc.

N2005.6.99 – Southern Montana Telephone Company – Lifeline/Linkup Tariff Revision

N2005.6.100 – CenturyTel - Tariff Transmittal 05-02 – Add Rates to the Emergency Communications Services

N2005.6.101 – NorthWestern Energy – Draft Rules for the Planning and Procurement of Natural Gas Supply

N2005.6.102 – Qwest Corporation – Tariff Transmittal 05-13 – Introduction of Public Response Calling Service