

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 06-08-22**

Date Published: August 17, 2006
For Work Week Commencing: August 21, 2006
Commission Meeting: August 22, 2006, 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.mt.gov>.

Place of Meetings All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.

Live audio feed Unless otherwise noted on this agenda, all Commission meetings held during regular business hours that are noticed on this agenda will be webcast live via the audio feed link on the PSC website (<http://psc.mt.gov/eDocs/#Calendars>). The audio feeds of meetings are also archived at the same website location.

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 – No Web Audio Feed)

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

Public Comments

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

1. YELLOWSTONE PIPELINE CO. D2006.7.110 (JOEL)

On July 21, 2006, Yellowstone Pipeline Co. filed an application to add their Proration Policy (this is used to allocate pipeline capacity to the shippers) in

their Montana Tariffs. This will not change rates. Probable Motion: Approve application as filed.

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

1. Qwest – 2006 CLEC forum – Discuss/act on draft notice of CLEC forum. (8/22/06)
2. D2005.12.174 – Qwest Corporation and Level 3 Communications – Motion to vacate the procedural schedule – Discuss and act on the motion. (8/22/06)
3. D2006.3.39 – Qwest Corporation – Revised procedural schedule – Discuss and act on the proposed schedule. (8/22/06)
4. D2005.12.181 – Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative – Mid-Rivers' ETC petition – Obtain direction to draft an order and discuss any other related matters that may arise. (8/22/06)
5. Placeholder - IDT America, Corp. – Complaint and Petition for Expedited Complaint Proceeding – Discuss expedited complaint process, act on IDT request to use the expedited complaint procedure, and possibly appoint hearing examiner. (8/22/06)
6. Buzz Telecom – Cramming complaints – Discuss with Commission the activities of Buzz Telecom in Montana. (8/22/06)
7. D2006.1.2 – PSC Initiated – Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. electric and gas USB investigation – Discussion, direction, action on motions and possible court action, other matters as necessary. (8/22/06)
8. BPA Regional Dialogue proposal – Discuss draft letter from the NW state utility commissions to BPA regarding residential exchange settlement proposal. (8/22/06)
9. Out of state staff travel – Obtain approval of Candace Beery's travel to MISO and OMS work group meetings in Carmel, IN, September 11-13. (8/22/06)

Other Meetings**8/21/06 – 1:30 p.m. – BPA meeting re Regional Dialogue policy proposal (Wingate Inn, Missoula) (No web audio feed)**

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. MDU Resources Group, Inc. D2006.8.120 (Eric)

On August 15, 2006, MDU Resources Group, Inc. applied for authority to issue over a two-year period \$750,000,000 of long-term financing in the following amounts: (1) the issuance of not to exceed \$750,000,000 of the Company's Common Stock; (2) the issuance of not to exceed \$112,500,000 of the Company's Preferred Stock and/or Preferred Stock A; (3) the issuance of not to exceed \$262,500,000 of the Company's secured debt securities; (4) the issuance of not to exceed \$262,500,000 of stock purchase contracts and (5) the issuance of not to exceed \$262,500,000 of hybrid securities such as convertible or unconvertible preferred securities, putable or callable instruments. The proceeds of these issuances will be used for funding the Company's capital requirements, for the refunding of its outstanding obligations, for corporate development including the acquisition of businesses or business assets and for other general corporate purposes.

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

wanting 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. Copies of these orders may be obtained by calling the Commission at (406) 444-6199

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

New Filings Received in Past Week

D2006.8.119 – NorthWestern Energy – Monthly Electric Default Supply Cost Rate Adjustment

D2006. 8.120 – MDU Resources Group, Inc. – Application for Authorization to Issue Securities and Authorization to Engage in Methods of Issuance Other than Competitive Bidding and Negotiated Offers