

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
AGENDA NO. 11-06-16**

Date Published: June 9, 2011

For Work Week Commencing: June 13, 2011

Commission Meeting: June 16, 2011, 9:00 a.m.

General Introduction *This agenda is the Commission's agenda for the work week designated. In the latter 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://psc.mt.gov>.*

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

Live webcast *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 and video feed links on the PSC web site at <http://psc.mt.gov> (go to "Agendas & Meetings" then "Audio/Video Archives"). The audio feeds of meetings are also archived at the same web site location.*

Inquiries *General inquiries concerning this 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. Approval of Commission Minutes (Kate)

Approval of the Commission Minutes for the week of May 23, 2011

2. Citizens Telecommunications N2011.5.44 (Scott)

On May 26, 2011, Citizens Telecommunications filed Advice Letter No. MT-11-02. The purpose of this filing is to introduce Frontier Business Nationwide Unlimited I and Frontier Business Local Unlimited I bundled services. These bundles will be available to all single-party business flat rate customers.

Probable Motion: Approve Citizens Telecommunications Advice Letter No. MT-11-02 in Docket N2011.5.44.

3. NorthWestern Energy D2009.9.129 (Scott)

On June 9, 2011, NorthWestern Energy (NWE) requested the Commission's permission, effective June 16, 2011, to expire the Electric and Natural Gas Delivery Services Rebate included in Order No. 7046h in Docket No. D2009.9.129. The rebate amount was established based on the Compliance Filing submitted on December 21, 2010, in which NWE estimated rebate amounts of \$3,027,089 for the electric utility and \$949,207 for the natural gas utility, including interest estimated through June 2011. With Commission approval to expire the rebate on June 16, 2011, NWE currently estimates that the required rebate for electric utility customers would be \$3,097,524 and \$964,445 to natural gas utility customers. NWE is currently estimating that an excess of \$81,115 will be rebated for electric delivery services and \$46,241 for natural gas delivery services if the rebates are expired on June 16th. NWE will provide the Commission with the actual rebate amounts for each utility after the actual customer billing information is available for the months of June and July 2011. The difference between the actual required rebate amounts and the amounts that were rebated will be addressed at that time.

Probable Motion: Allow NWE to expire Electric and Natural Gas Delivery Services Rebate included in Order No. 7046h in Docket No. D2009.9.129.

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

1. D2011.5.36 – NorthWestern Energy – Application for Approval of
 - 1) Unreflected Gas Cost Account Balance for the 12-Month Period Ending

- June 30, 2011, and Projected Gas Cost Tracking for the 12-Month Period Ending June 30, 2012; and 2) Gas Transportation Adjustment Clause Balance as of April 30, 2011 – Discuss/act on interim order. (6/16/11)
2. D2011.5.41 – NorthWestern Energy – Application for Approval to Purchase and Operate the Spion Kop Wind Project, for Certification of the Spion Kop Wind Project as an Eligible Renewable Resource, and for Related Relief – Consider and act upon Compass Wind and Spion Kop Wind’s Motion for Protective Order. (6/16/11)
 3. D2011.5.41 – NorthWestern Energy – Application for Approval to Purchase and Operate the Spion Kop Wind Project, for Certification of the Spion Kop Wind Project as an Eligible Renewable Resource, and for Related Relief – Consider and act upon Invenergy Wind ‘s Motion for Protective Order. (6/16/11)
 4. D2011.5.41 – NorthWestern Energy – Application for Approval to Purchase and Operate the Spion Kop Wind Project, for Certification of the Spion Kop Wind Project as an Eligible Renewable Resource, and for Related Relief – Consider and act upon Sagebrush Energy’s Motion for Protective Order. (6/16/11)
 5. Chief Legal Counsel position – Act on appointment of Dennis Lopach as PSC Chief Legal Counsel. (6/16/11)
 6. NERC Membership – Discuss renewing NERC membership and selecting a Commissioner as a primary contact. (6/16/11)
 7. Out-of-state staff travel – Obtain approval of Brian Dekiep’s travel request to attend the Northern Tier Transmission Group’s stakeholders’ meeting in Portland, OR, July 28, 2011. (6/16/11)

Other Meetings

6/12/11 through 6/15/11 – Western Conference of Public Service Commissioners (Denver, CO – no web audio feed)

Weekly Scheduling, Review of Monthly Calendars, and Docket Status Updates (if requested by a Commissioner).

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 Corporation D2008.6.64 (Mike)
Interconnection Agreement Amendment

Qwest Corporation has filed with the Commission an Amendment to the Wireless Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation and XO Communications Services. The Amendment is for terms and conditions relating to xDSL Capable Loops. The amendment was voluntarily negotiated by the parties.

2. Qwest Corporation D2006.3.30 (Mike)
Interconnection Agreement Amendment

Qwest Corporation has filed with the Commission an Amendment to the Wireless Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation and DIECA Communications, Inc. dba Covad Communications Company. The Amendment adds terms, conditions, and rates for Resale as set forth in Attachment 1 and Exhibit A of the Amendment. The amendment was voluntarily negotiated by the parties.

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. Copies of these requests may be viewed on the Commission's web site at <http://psc.mt.gov>.

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 viewed on the Commission's web site at <http://psc.mt.gov>.

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

New Filings Received in Past Week

D2011.5.38 – NorthWestern Energy – Application for Approval of Deferred Cost Account Balances for Electricity Supply Costs and Colstrip Unit 4 (CU4) Variable Cost/Credits and Projected Electricity Supply Cost Rates and CU4 Variable Rates

D2011.6.45 – NorthWestern Energy – Application for Propane Supply Cost Account Balance and Rate Adjustment for Townsend Propane Supply