

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
AGENDA NO. 12-01-23**

Date Published: January 19, 2012  
For Work Week Commencing: January 23, 2012  
Commission Meeting: January 23, 2012, 1:30 p.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 website at <http://psc.mt.gov> (go to "Agendas & Meetings" then "Audio/Video Archives"). The audio feeds of meetings are also archived at the same website 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.*

**1:15 p.m. Weekly Scheduling** (Commission Conference Room – No Web Audio Feed)

**1:30 p.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 (Aleisha)

Approval of the Commission Minutes for the week of January 17, 2012

2. American Medical Response T-11.27.RI (Nickie)

On November 18, 2011 American Medical Response, Billings, Montana filed for increased rates and charges in its Passenger Tariff No. 1, covering the transportation of passengers under PSC No. 8996. The rate increase is between 4.98% and 5.17%. It was noticed to the public on December 29, 2011. No protests were received. Probable Motion: Approve the rate increase for PSC No. 8996.

Class B - Handicapped persons, convalescents, and wheelchair patients, between all points and places in Yellowstone, Carbon, Stillwater, Big Horn and Musselshell Counties, Montana. Limitations: All transportation must originate or terminate in Yellowstone County.

3. Capitol Taxi T-11.28.RI (Nickie)

On December 5, 2011 UG, Inc. dba Capitol Taxi, Helena, Montana filed for increased rates and charges in its Passenger Tariff No. 1, covering the transportation of passengers under PSC No. 2111. The rate increase is between 0 and 50%. The 50% increase is in the night fare, which was \$1.00, plus applicable zone fare increasing to \$1.50 plus applicable zone fare. It was noticed to the public on December 30, 2011 and no protests were received. Probable Motion: Approve the rate increase for PSC No. 2111.

SUB C Class B - Persons, baggage and express within the city limits of Helena, Montana and a fifty (50) mile radius thereof. LIMITATION: Transportation of passengers requiring wheelchair van service is prohibited.

4. Lincoln Telephone Company, Inc. N2012.1.5 (Gary)

On January 9, 2012, Lincoln Telephone Company, Inc. filed a Lincoln specific addendum to the existing Telephone Exchange Carriers of Montana (TECOM) intrastate access tariff. The purpose of this filing is to propose the addition of tariff language for implementation of the intercarrier compensation regime for certain VoIP-PSTN traffic as mandated in the Federal Communications Commission's November 18, 2011 Report and Order and

Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in WC Docket Nos. 10-90, etc. (FCC 11-161).

5. Southern Montana Telephone Company N2012.1.7 (Gary)

On January 11, 2012, Southern Montana Telephone Company filed a Southern specific addendum to the existing Telephone Exchange Carriers of Montana (TECOM) intrastate access tariff. The purpose of this filing is to propose the addition of tariff language for implementation of the intercarrier compensation regime for certain VoIP-PSTN traffic as mandated in the Federal Communications Commission's November 18, 2011 Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in WC Docket Nos. 10-90, etc. (FCC 11-161).

6. Central Montana Com. & Triangle Telephone Coop. N2012.1.8 (Gary)

On January 11, 2012, Central Montana Communications filed a Central specific addendum to the existing Montana Independent Local Exchange Carrier (MILEC) intrastate access tariff. The purpose of this filing is to propose the addition of tariff language for implementation of the intercarrier compensation regime for certain VoIP-PSTN traffic as mandated in the Federal Communications Commission's November 18, 2011 Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in WC Docket Nos. 10-90, etc. (FCC 11-161). Triangle Telephone Cooperative participated in the filing as concurring in the Central MILEC addendum.

Probable Motion – Move to approve the Lincoln Telephone Company, Inc. TECOM tariff addendum in Docket No. N2012.1.5, the Southern Montana Telephone Company TECOM tariff addendum in Docket No. 2012.1.7, and the Central Montana Communications MILEC tariff addendum in Docket No. N2012.1.8.

7. BLACK HILLS POWER D2011.12.106 (Eric)

On December 20, 2011, BHP filed a Quarterly Fuel Rate Rider application. A Notice of Opportunity for Public Hearing was issued on December 21, 2011. Requests for hearing were due by January 20, 2012. No requests have been received. This application will increase revenues by \$78,457 over the base cost of fuel approved in Docket No. 83.4.25. A default order has been drafted. Probable motion: Grant BHP's Quarterly Fuel Rate Rider application.

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

1. D2011.4.32 – Cut Bank Gas Company – Application to True up and Make Final Gas Costs from January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010 and Recover from Customers the Under Collection of \$118,462. – Discuss cancelling the tentative hearing date of January 26, 2012. (1/23/12)
2. D2011.6.45 – NWE/Townsend Propane – Application for propane supply cost account balance amortization and rate adjustment – Discuss the motion to bifurcate the Cost Account Balance and Rate Adjustment tracker from the investigation of the feasibility of running natural gas to Townsend to replace the existing propane service. (1/23/12)
3. N2011.7.65 – NWE – Electric line extension tariff revisions to reflect line extension refund period changing from 5 to 10 years – Discuss and act on proposed tariff. (1/23/12)

### **Other Meetings**

**1/24/12 – 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. – Midwest Reliability Organization informational meeting (Bollinger Room)**

**1/25/12 – 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. - NRRI teleseminar: “Wind-Park Siting and Zoning: Best Practices and Their Impact on Resource Development” (Commission Conference Room – 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. Project Telephone Company N2012.1.10 (Gary)

On January 17, 2012, Project Telephone Company filed a Project specific addendum to the existing Telephone Exchange Carriers of Montana (TECOM) intrastate access tariff. The purpose of this filing is to propose the addition of tariff language for implementation of the intercarrier compensation regime for certain VoIP-PSTN traffic as mandated in the Federal Communications Commission's November 18, 2011 Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in WC Docket Nos. 10-90, etc. (FCC 11-161).

**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**

D2012.1.3 - NorthWestern Energy - Application for Approval of Avoided Cost Tariff for New Qualifying Facilities  
N2012.1.10 - Project Telephone Company Inc. - VoIP-PSTN Tariff Revisions to MILEC and TECOM Access Tariffs