

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
AGENDA NO. 12-05-15**

Date Published: May 10, 2012
For Work Week Commencing: May 14, 2012
Commission Meeting: May 15, 2012, 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 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.*

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 (Aleisha)

Approval of the Commission Minutes for the week of May 7, 2012

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

1. D2012.1.3 – NorthWestern Energy – Application for Approval of Avoided Cost Tariff for New Qualifying Facilities – Schedule QF-1 – Consider NorthWestern Energy’s motion for protective order for portions of electric procurement plan hedging strategy. (5/15/12)
2. D2012.1.3 – NorthWestern Energy – Application for Approval of Avoided Cost Tariff for New Qualifying Facilities – Schedule QF-1 – Discuss/act on NorthWestern Energy’s motion for protective order regarding GENIVAR pricing information. (5/15/12)
3. D2012.3.25 – NorthWestern Energy – Application to Place the Battle Creek Natural Gas Production Resources in Rate Base and to Recover Associated Expenses – Consider Helis Oil & Gas Company and Energy Consultants, L.L.C.’s Motion for Special Limited Intervention for Purposes of Obtaining a Protective Order for portions of their agreements with Northwestern Energy. (5/15/12)
4. Placeholder – T-11.26.PCN – Douglas E. and Vickie L. Wyant dba Wyant’s Shuttle Service – Application for Intrastate Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity – Discuss and act on order. (5/15/12)
5. Staff out-of-state travel – Obtain approval for Dennis Lopach to attend NorthWestern Energy’s FERC hearing in Washington, D.C., June 10-15, 2012. (5/15/12)

Other Meetings

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. NORTHWESTERN ENERGY N2012.5.50 (Kate)

On May 8, 2012, NorthWestern Energy (NWE) filed a proposed electric line extension tariff in accordance with the discussion at the Commission's April 17, 2012, work session concerning a draft line extension rule. The proposed tariff reinstates the electric line extension tariff that was in effect prior to Final Order 7046h in Docket D2009.9.129 (NWE's most recent general rate case), except for statutorily required changes regarding line extension advances and some minor clarifying revisions. NWE requests the tariff, if approved, become effective 14 calendar days after approval, because implementation will require business process changes by NWE.

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 website 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 website at <http://psc.mt.gov>.

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

New Filings Received in Past Week

D2012.5.47 – NorthWestern Energy – Application for Propane Cost Account Balance and Rate Adjustment for Townsend Propane Supply

N2012.5.50 – NorthWestern Energy – Proposed Electric Utility Line Extension Tariff