

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
AGENDA NO. 12-10-25**

Date Published: October 18, 2012
For Work Week Commencing: October 22, 2012
Commission Meeting: October 25, 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 website 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 October 15, 2012

2. BLACK HILLS POWER, INC. (BHP) D2012.9.99 (Eric)

On September 25, 2012, BHP filed a Quarterly Fuel Rate Rider application. A Notice of Opportunity for Public Hearing was issued on September 27, 2012. Requests for hearing were due by October 19, 2012. No requests have been received. This application will increase revenues by \$88,143 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.

3. Citizens Telecommunications N2012.10.105 (Scott)

On September 28, 2012, Citizens filed Advice Letter No. MT-12-05. The purpose of this filing is to correct the number of Additional Bundle (4 to 10) lines to (4 to 12) lines within Simply Unlimited Service-Leader new Business bundled service. Probable Motion: Approve Citizens Advice Letter No. MT-12-05 in Docket N2012.10.105.

4. NorthWestern Energy (NWE) N2012.10.104 (Scott)

On October 1, 2012, NWE filed an application seeking authority to accumulate the under and over collections of MPSC and MCC taxes starting on October 1, 2012. Due to a lack of materiality NWE has chosen to defer implementing tariffs reflecting these tax increases at this time. NWE proposes to accrue both under and over collections for inclusion in its next general rate filing. The under and over collections will be carried on NWE's books as regulatory liabilities and assets until returned to or recovered from customers. Probable Motion: Grant NWE's request to accrue under and over collections of the MPSC and MCC tax increases until the next general rate case.

5. Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink D2004.1.13 (Mike)
Qwest dba CenturyLink / Sprint Communications Company, L.P.

CenturyLink has filed for approval with this Commission an amendment to the existing interconnection agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink and Sprint Communications, L.P. in Docket No. D2004.1.13.

The amendment adds terms and conditions relating to ICC VoIP traffic. This amendment was voluntarily negotiated by the parties involved. Probable Motion: Move to approve the amendment to the interconnection agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink and Sprint Communications, L.P. in Docket No. D2004.1.13.

6. Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink D2006.3.32 (Mike)
Qwest dba CenturyLink / Granite Telecommunications

CenturyLink has filed for approval with this Commission an amendment to the existing interconnection agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink and Granite Telecommunications in Docket No. D2006.3.32. The amendment governs the purchase by Granite of certain telecommunications services for resale provided by CenturyLink. This amendment was voluntarily negotiated by the parties involved. Probable Motion: Move to approve the amendment to the interconnection agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink and Granite Telecommunications in Docket No. D2006.3.32.

7. Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink D2011.5.43 (Mike)
Qwest dba CenturyLink / Broadvox-CLEC, LLC

CenturyLink has filed for approval with this Commission an amendment to the existing interconnection agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink and Broadvox-CLEC, LLC in Docket No. D2011.5.43. The amendment adds terms and conditions relating to ICC VoIP traffic. This amendment was voluntarily negotiated by the parties involved. Probable Motion: Move to approve the amendment to the interconnection agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink and Broadvox-CLEC, LLC in Docket No. D2011.5.43.

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

1. D2012.9.91 and D2012.10.107 – Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink and CenturyTel of Montana, Inc. dba CenturyLink – Interconnection agreements – Discuss and act on proposed interconnection agreements between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink and New Horizons Communications Corporation in Docket No. D2012.9.91 and between CenturyTel of Montana dba CenturyLink and QuantumShift Communications, Inc. dba VCOM Solutions in Docket No. D2012.10.107. (10/25/12)

2. N2012.10.106 – Southern Montana Telephone Company (SMTC) – Request for PSC Letter Supporting SMTC’s Letter to the FCC Regarding 5 Year Plan – Discuss SMTC’s request for clarification of certain issues which will enable Montana ETCs to comply with the requirement to file a 5 year buildout plan on July 1, 2013, as part of the new FCC reporting requirements. (10/25/12)
3. D2009.12.156 – Aquanet, Inc. – Application for Approval of Initial Rates and Charges for Water Service in its Billings, Montana, Service Area – Discuss, get direction or act on final order. (10/25/12)

Other Meetings

10/23/12 – 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and 10/24/12 – 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. – Montana Independent Telecommunications Systems (MITS) Annual Technology Symposium (Great Northern Hotel, Helena, MT – no web audio feed)

10/25/12 – 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. – NRRI teleseminar: “The FCC’s USF Transition Order and Its Effect on State Universal Service Funds” (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.

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>.

1. NorthWestern Energy D2012.5.49 (Dennis)

On October 2, 2012, the Commission granted NorthWestern Energy's motion for protective order to govern access to its 2011 hedging strategy.

2. NorthWestern Energy D2012.5.49 (Dennis)

On October 2, 2012, the Commission granted Powerex Corp.'s motion for protective order to govern access to its Customized Products.

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

New Filings Received in Past Week

N2012.10.106 – Southern Montana Telephone Company – Request for PSC Letter Supporting Southern Montana Telephone Company’s Letter to the FCC Regarding 5 Year Plan

D2012.10.107 – CenturyTel of Montana, Inc. dba CenturyLink and QuantumShift Communications, Inc. dba VCOM Solutions – Application for Approval of Resale Agreement