

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
AGENDA NO. 13-10-17**

Date Published: October 10, 2013  
For Work Week Commencing: October 14, 2013  
Commission Meeting: October 17, 2013, 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 October 7, 2013

2. Pass-Through of Fees Levied on Regulated Companies for Funding the Montana Consumer Counsel and Public Service Commission D2013.10.72 & D2013.10.73 (Kate)

Sections 69-1-224(4) and 69-1-403(4), MCA, require that the PSC issue orders each year to authorize regulated companies to fully recover in their rates the fees levied on them for the funding of the Montana Consumer Counsel and the PSC. The state Department of Revenue has notified the PSC that the MCC tax rate on regulated companies' gross operating revenues for the period of October 2013 through September 2014 will be .0011 and the PSC tax rate will be .0042. Draft orders have been prepared to authorize regulated companies to recover the fees in their rates. Probable motion: Move to issue the orders as drafted.

3. Thomas F. Kenneally TN2590 (Nickie)

The Personal Representative for the Estate of Thomas F. Kenneally, Butte, Montana, requests permission to continue the lease of PSC No. 4448 to The McGree Corporation, Butte, Montana, for a one year period, October 12, 2013, to October 12, 2014. Probable Motion: Approve the renewal of the lease of PSC No. 4448 as requested.

Class D - Ashes, trash, waste, refuse, rubbish and garbage within the town of Whitehall, Montana, and to or from points tributary thereto, but within a distance not exceeding eighty (80) miles in any direction from town. Carrier is allowed to transport authorized commodities to certified landfills from territory authorized.

4. Bowker Sanitation LLP TN2591 (Brenda)

Allen Charles Bowker and Melanie Jean Bowker dba Bowker Sanitation LLP, Culbertson, Montana, request permission to lease PSC No. 5039 to Bowker Enterprises LLC, Culbertson, Montana for the period October 15, 2013, to December 15, 2013. Probable Motion: Approve the lease of PSC No. 5039 as requested.

Class D - Garbage and solid waste within the City of Culbertson, and a 20 mile radius thereof.

SUB A Class D - Garbage within the town of Bainville, Montana and a ten (10) mile radius thereof.

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

1. D2012.5.49 – NorthWestern Energy – Application for Approval of 1) Deferred Cost Account Balances for Electricity Supply, CU4 Variable Costs/Credits, and DGGs Variable Costs/Credits; and 2) Projected Electricity Supply Cost Rates, CU4 Variable Rates, and DGGs Variable Rates – Discuss and act on draft final order. (10/17/13)
2. Placeholder – D2012.7.81 – Mountain Water Company – Application to Increase Rates for Water Service in Missoula, Montana – Discuss/obtain Commission direction on draft final order. (10/17/13)
3. D2013.1.5 and D2013.7.55 – Energy West Montana, Inc. – Applications for Approval of its Reconciliation of the Collections and Disbursements of its Universal Systems Benefits Account – Discuss and act on draft final order. (10/17/13)
4. N2013.4.29 – PSC Initiated – Investigation into electric and natural gas USB funding and programs – Discuss and provide direction regarding draft Notice of Roundtable. (10/17/13)
5. Montana-Alberta Tie Line (MATL) informational session – Clarify purpose and scope of informational session for Commission. (10/17/13)

### **Other Meetings**

**10/18/13 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. – NorthWestern Energy informational meeting re: recent conversion to new Customer Information System (Commission Conference Room – no web audio feed)**

**10/18/13 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. – NorthWestern Energy informational meeting re: proposed acquisition of PPL's hydro facilities (Bollinger Room)**

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>.

1. Nemont Telephone Cooperative, Inc. N2013.5.32 (Laura)

On October 8, 2013, Nemont Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (Nemont) filed a Motion for Protective Order to protect from disclosure certain portions of the Data Collection Form of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Form 481 for Nemont's 2013 compliance filing in the above captioned docket.

2. Project Telephone Company N2013.5.32 (Laura)

On October 8, 2013, Project Telephone Company (Project) filed a Motion for Protective Order to protect from disclosure certain portions of the Data Collection Form of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Form 481 for Project's 2013 compliance filing in the above captioned docket.

**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**

D2013.10.72 – PSC Initiated – Montana Consumer Counsel Funding Fees

D2013.10.73 – PSC Initiated – Public Service Commission Funding Fees