

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
AGENDA NO. 13-11-26**

Date Published: November 21, 2013
For Work Week Commencing: November 25, 2013
Commission Meeting: November 26, 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 November 18, 2012

2. Out-of-state travel (Kate)

Staff requests approval of staff travel to the following meetings: (1) Scott Fabel, meeting of the NARUC Staff Subcommittee on Accounting & Finance, March 16-20, 2014, Jacksonville, FL; and (2) David Lofftus, Scenario Planning Study Group meeting, December 16-17, 2013, Salt Lake City. Probable motion: Move to approve the staff travel requests.

3. CenturyLink N2013.11.79 (Scott)

On November 6, 2013, CenturyLink filed Tariff Transmittal 13-05. In this filing CenturyLink is 1) requesting to make changes to standardize rates presentation used for similar packaged services provided by other CenturyLink affiliates; 2) removes language pertaining to an early termination fee for customers with 4-10 lines who cancel their service prior to twelve months after subscribing to the service; 3) grandfathers Simple Choice Unlimited which was previously available with a 2000 minute monthly limit; 4) grandfathers Flexible Saving Bundle; and 5) clarifying language has been added to specific Competitive Response Program. Probable Motion: Approve CenturyLink Tariff Transmittal 13-05 in Docket N2013.11.79.

4. Montana Dakota Utilities (MDU) D2013.10.72 & D2013.10.73 (Scott)

On November 8, 2013, MDU filed an application seeking authority to continue to accumulate the under and over collections of MPSC and MCC taxes. MDU has requested to defer implementing tariffs reflecting these tax increases at this time. MDU proposes to accrue both under and over collections for inclusion in its next general rate filing. Probable Motion: Approve MDU's request to continue to accumulate the under and over collections of MPSC and MCC taxes.

5. Venhaus & Sons TN2593 (Nickie)

Jeff Venhaus & Char Schulz Venhaus d/b/a Venhaus & Sons, Ekalaka, Montana request permission to lease PSC No. 2938 to Ethan Lindell & Drake Burch d/b/a E & D's Garbage Service, Ekalaka, Montana for a six month

period, November 26, 2013 to May 26, 2014. Proposed Motion: Approved the lease of PSC No. 2938 as requested.

Class D - Garbage and refuse in the City of Ekalaka, Montana, and between all points and places within a five mile radius of said city. Carrier is allowed to transport authorized commodities to certified landfills from territory authorized.

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

1. D2013.9.65 – Hiland Crude LLC – Application for Recognition as a Common Carrier pipeline – Discuss and act on Application for Recognition as a Common Carrier pipeline. (11/26/13)
2. N2013.10.74 – NWE – NWE’s intent to file an application regarding the purchase of PPL Montana’s hydroelectric generating facilities in Montana – Obtain direction from Commission regarding issuing an RFP for engineering consultant services related to assessing NWE’s due diligence efforts on the hydro facilities, including projected future capital and O&M costs. (11/26/13)

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. NorhWestern Energy N2013.11.81 (Elizabeth)

On November 18, 2013, Northwestern Energy (NWE) requested the Commission approve a thermal zone boundary change. NWE recently disconnected the Bow-Havre pipeline from the Havre pipeline and the gas associated with that line has been rerouted. The result is that the content of the natural gas in Zones 8 and 9 is the same, eliminating the need for both zones. Therefore, NWE will eliminate Zone 9 and move those customers into Zone 8.

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>

1. Reservation Telephone Cooperative N2013.5.32 (Laura)

On November 21, 2013, Reservation Telephone Cooperative (Reservation) filed a Motion for Protective Order requesting confidential treatment of certain financial and operating information that will be submitted in support of the FCC Form 481 Eligible Telecommunications Carrier reporting

2. West River Cooperative Telephone Company N2013.5.32 (Laura)

On November 21, 2013 West River Cooperative Telephone Company (West River) filed a Motion for Protective Order seeking confidential treatment of certain financial and operating information that will be submitted in support of the FCC Form 481 Eligible Telecommunications Carrier reporting

3. CenturyTel, N2013.5.32 (Laura)

On November 19, 2013, CenturyTel d/b/a/ CenturyLink (CenturyLink) filed an Amended Motion for Protective Order to protect from disclosure information that CenturyLink reports in the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Form 481-Carrier Annual Reporting Data Collection Form.

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

N2013.11.81 - NorthWestern Energy - Application for Approval of 2013Therm Billing Zone Change