

Service Date: June 17, 2014

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

IN THE MATTER OF the Application of ) REGULATORY DIVISION  
NorthWestern Energy for Hydro Assets )  
Purchase ) DOCKET NO. D2013.12.85

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Montana Public Service Commission (Commission) will conduct a public hearing in the matter of the *Application for Hydro Assets Purchase* (Application) filed by NorthWestern Corporation, doing business as NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern). The hearing will commence **Tuesday, July 8, 2014, at 9:00 a.m.** in the Old Supreme Court Chambers, 1301 East 6th Avenue, Room 303, in the Capitol Building, Helena, Montana 59601, and continue day-to-day as necessary.

NorthWestern may apply to the Commission “for approval of an electricity supply resource that is not yet procured.” Mont. Code Ann. § 69-8-421 (2013). On December 20, 2013, NorthWestern applied for approval of the following electricity supply resources:

- Madison Dam
- Hauser Dam
- Holter Dam
- Black Eagle Dam
- Rainbow Dam
- Cochrane Dam
- Thompson Falls Dam
- Mystic Dam
- Kerr Dam
- Morony Dam
- Ryan Dam
- Hebgen Lake Storage Reservoir

NorthWestern has agreed to pay PPL Montana, LLC \$900 million (plus or minus closing adjustments) for these facilities. The 2014 test period revenue requirement requested in *Rebuttal Testimony* is \$120,963,690; this consists of costs of \$61,073,030 and a return of \$59,890,660.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Title 69 of the Montana Code Annotated, and will conduct the hearing as a contested case under the Montana Administrative Procedures Act. *See id.* §§ 2-4-102(4); 69-3-303(2); *see also* Admin. R. Mont. 38.2.3901–4208 (2014). Parties to a contested case may jointly waive a formal proceeding in

writing. Mont. Code Ann. § 2-4-603(2).

A copy of the Application is available for inspection at the Commission at the above address, and on its website at <http://psc.mt.gov> under Docket D2013.12.85. The MCC is available at 111 North Last Chance Gulch, P.O. Box 201703, Helena, Montana 59620, telephone (406) 444-2771, to represent the interests of the consuming public in this matter.

Anyone needing accommodation for a physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend or participate in the hearing should contact the Commission at (406) 444-6199 at least one week prior to the hearing. The Commission will make every effort to accommodate individual impairments.

BY THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

W. A. (BILL) GALLAGHER, Chairman

BOB LAKE, Vice Chairman

KIRK BUSHMAN, Commissioner

TRAVIS KAVULLA, Commissioner

ROGER KOOPMAN, Commissioner