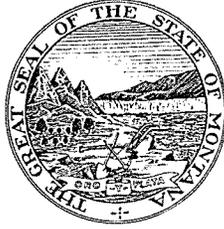


PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF MONTANA



Brad Johnson, Chairman
Travis Kavulla, Vice Chairman
Kirk Bushman, Commissioner
Roger Koopman, Commissioner
Bob Lake, Commissioner

1701 Prospect Avenue
PO Box 202601
Helena, MT 59620-2601
Voice: 406.444.6199
Fax #: 406.444.7618
<http://psc.mt.gov>
E-Mail: psc_webmaster@mt.gov

June 24, 2015

Mr. Joe Schwartzenberger
Regulatory Affairs Department
NorthWestern Energy
40 East Broadway
Butte, MT 59701

RE: Data requests in Consolidated Dockets D2013.5.33 and D2014.5.46

Dear Mr. Schwartzenberger:

Enclosed please find late-filed Data Requests of the Montana Public Service Commission to NorthWestern Energy (NWE) numbered PSC-041 through PSC-049 in the above-referenced consolidated Dockets. Please begin the response to each new numbered Data Request on a new page. Please respond by July 27, 2015, or as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact me at (406) 444-6191.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Neil Templeton".

Neil Templeton
Regulatory Division
Montana Public Service Commission

Service Date: June 24, 2015

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

IN THE MATTER OF NorthWestern) REGULATORY DIVISION
Energy's 2012-2013 Electricity Supply)
Tracker) DOCKET NO. D2013.5.33
)
IN THE MATTER OF NorthWestern) DOCKET NO. D2014.5.46
Energy's 2013-2014 Electricity Supply)
Tracker)

LATE DATA REQUESTS PSC-041 THROUGH PSC-049 OF THE
MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
TO
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY

PSC-041

Regarding: Transmission Costs
Witness: Bennett or Markovich

Please explain why transmission costs spiked in April 2014.

PSC-042

Regarding: Spion Kop Variable Cost Revenues
Witness: Bennett or Markovich

Please explain the source and nature of the "Spion Kop Variable Cost Revenues" that appear on line 44, page 2 of Exhibit_(FVB-8)13-14 in Docket D2014.5.46.

PSC-043

Regarding: DGGS Variable Costs
Witness: Bennett or Markovich

- a. Please explain the source and nature of the May 2014 "MPSC-Related Fuel Adjustment" that appears on line 56, page 2 of Exhibit_(FVB-6)13-14 in Docket D2014.5.46.

- b. Please explain why the calculation of DGGS “Energy Supply Cost” and “Revenue Credits” appears to change (resulting in a lower credit) after March and April 2014. *See e.g.* lines 51 & 70 on page 2 of Exhibit_(FVB-6)13-14 Updated, Dkt. D2014.5.46.

PSC-044

Regarding: DGGS Transport Constraints
Witness: Bennett or Markovich

Was the February 2014 through June 2014 timeframe the first time that NorthWestern’s DGGS plant has been subject to “transport constraints” as an “interruption natural gas transport customer”? If not, please list and describe prior instances. *See* DR PSC-015a.

PSC-045

Regarding: Spot Market Transactions
Witness: Bennett or Markovich

- a. Please explain the January 2013 entry for \$(2,046,704) on line 82, page 4 of Exhibit (FVB-1)_12-13 in Docket D2013.5.33, and why there is no corresponding entry on page 3 at line 20.
- b. Why were net spot market transactions negative from January through May, 2013, and again in April 2014? If NorthWestern was long on energy during those months, please attribute (prorating if necessary) that surplus energy to particular generating resources.

PSC-046

Regarding: DSM Program & Labor Costs
Witness: Bennett or Markovich

Please provide a detailed breakdown of the \$2,379,492 incurred for DSM program and labor costs in August 2012, as well as supporting work papers.

PSC-047

Regarding: Estimating Imbalance Expenses
Witness: Bennett or Markovich

Why did NWE stop estimating future imbalance expenses in July 2012?

PSC-048

Regarding: Estimate of MCC Tax Collection
Witness: Bennett or Markovich

Was the December 2013 estimate of “MCC Tax Collection” (\$0) on line 39, page 1 of Exhibit_(FVB-2)13-14 in Docket D2013.5.33 a typo? If so, please provide the correct estimate.

PSC-049

Regarding: Estimated vs. Actual Costs
Witness: Bennett or Markovich

- a. Please explain why actual “Carrying Costs” incurred from June 2013 through June 2014 were \$1.9 million more than previously estimated.
- b. Please explain why actual “Total Delivered Supply” costs incurred from June 2013 through March 2014 were \$31.2 million more than previously estimated.