

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Tuesday, December 7, 2010, the following members were present:

Greg Jergeson, Chair  
Ken Toole, Vice Chair  
Gail Gutsche, Commissioner  
Brad Molnar, Commissioner  
John Vincent, Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Eric Dahlgren, Regulatory Division

(371) In the matter of T-10.37.ST: On October 22, 2010, Lee Reynolds, Helena, Montana, through the estate administrator, filed an application to transfer PSC No.869 to C. Lee Reynolds LLC d/b/a Mobile City Home Park, Helena, Montana.

Commissioner Toole moved to APPROVE the transfer as requested. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(372) In the matter of T-10.38.ST: On October 22, 2010, Lee Reynolds, Helena, Montana, through the estate administrator, filed an application to transfer PSC No. 6079 to Kelly Kugler, Helena, Montana.

Commissioner Toole moved to APPROVE the transfer as requested. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Gary Duncan, Regulatory Division

(373) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2010.11.108: Qwest Corporation, Liberty-Bell Telecom, LLC Interconnection Agreement.

Commissioner Vincent moved to APPROVE the interconnection agreement between Qwest Corporation and Liberty-Bell Telecom, LLC in Docket No. D2010.11.108. Commissioner Toole seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Jason Brown, Legal Division

(374) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2010.5.50: NorthWestern Energy's application for approval of electric supply deferred cost account balance and projected electric supply cost. Change hearing dates.

Commissioner Gutsche moved to APPROVE the change of hearing dates from January 12-13 to

January 19-20, 2011 in Docket No. D2010.5.50. Commissioner Toole seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Leroy Beeby, Regulatory Division  
Justin Kraske, Legal Division

(375) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2010.6.69: Energy West Montana annual application for monthly gas tracker true up and projected costs, final order.

Commissioner Jergeson moved to APPROVE final order, subject to non-substantive text edits in Docket No. D2010.6.69. Commissioner Toole seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Scott Fabel, Regulatory Division

(376) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2010.11.109: MDU Rate 35 tracker. Interim Order No. 7125.

Commissioner Jergeson moved to APPROVE Interim Order No. 7125 subject to non substantive editing in Docket No. D2010.11.109. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Sarah Norcott, Legal Division

(377) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2010.9.98: Treeline Springs, LLC., application for increased rates for water and wastewater service.

Commissioner Vincent moved to GRANT the motion for protective order for tax returns and tax return information for Treeline Springs and Moonlight Basin Ranch for 2008 and 2009 in Docket No. D2010.9.98. Commissioner Toole seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Bob Decker, Regulatory Division  
Jason Brown, Legal Division

(378) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of report on electric efficiency and conservation. Bob Decker presented an overview of the report.

Commissioner Toole moved to RELEASE the report, establish an "N" docket, to invite public comment and establish a round table date of January 18, 2011. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator,  
Regulatory Division  
Eric Eck and Will Rosquist, Regulatory Division

(379) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2009.9.129: NorthWestern Energy application for authority to establish increased natural gas and electric delivery service rates and implement allocated cost of service and rate design.

MOTION 1: Commissioner Toole moved to ELIMINATE the inverted block rate design program for natural gas in paragraph 245 and make necessary change in the order section in Docket No. D2009.9.129. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

MOTION 2: Commissioner Vincent moved to REPLACE the word "possible" with the word "proposed" any time it appears on the last two sentences of paragraph 245 in Docket No. D2009.9.129. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

MOTION 3: Commissioner Toole moved to ISSUE the final order with suggested approved language changes by counsel and staff with non-substantive editing in Docket No. D2009.9.129. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 4-1. Commissioner Molnar voted no.

APPEARANCE

Al Brogan, Administrator,  
Legal Division

(380) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2008.4.36: NorthWestern Energy in the matter of the investigation of NorthWestern Energy's compliance with Order 6505. Discussion only; no action taken.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Centralized Services

(381) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Personnel-Centralized Services:

Commissioner Jergeson moved to DESIGNATE Staci Litschauer as Centralized Services Administrator, an exempt position, with a base salary of \$65,000, effective December 18, 2010. Commissioner Toole seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh, Executive Director

(382) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Blue Book revisions.

Commissioner Jergeson moved to SCHEDULE the next two work sessions to review the revisions to the operations manual with a decision by the second work session. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

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GREG JERGESON, Chair

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KEN TOOLE, Vice Chair

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GAIL GUTSCHE, Commissioner

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BRAD MOLNAR, Commissioner

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JOHN VINCENT, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Verna Stewart  
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Wednesday, December 8, 2010, the following members were present:

Greg Jergeson, Chair  
Ken Toole, Vice Chair  
Gail Gutsche, Commissioner  
Brad Molnar, Commissioner  
John Vincent, Commissioner, via telephone

APPEARANCE

Justin Kraske, Legal Division

(383) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2010.4.41: Mountain Water Company. Application for authority to increase rates and charges for water service, motion in limine to waive Ed Jackson's personal appearance and cross examination at the upcoming hearing on December 15, 2010 in Missoula.

Commissioner Gutsche moved to GRANT Mountain Water's motion in limine to waive Edward Jackson's personal appearance and his testimony to be entered into the record and subject to Mr. Jackson's availability by phone in Docket No. D2010.4.41. Commissioner Toole seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Brian DeKiep, Regulatory Division

(384) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Round table discussion-energy efficiency and conservation report.

Commissioner Gutsche moved to ISSUE an order to move the energy efficiency round table scheduled for January 18, 2011 to the tentative date of January 25, 2011 at 1:00. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Al Brogan, Administrator,  
Legal Division

(383) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2008.4.36: NorthWestern Energy investigation of NorthWestern Energy compliance with Order 6505e. Discuss settlement agreement.

Commissioner Toole moved to ISSUE an order accepting the settlement agreement without modification and in its entirety in Docket No. D2008.4.36. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioner Molnar voted no.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

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GREG JERGESON, Chair

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KEN TOOLE, Vice Chair

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GAIL GUTSCHE, Commissioner

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BRAD MOLNAR, Commissioner

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JOHN VINCENT, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Verna Stewart  
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(SEAL)