

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Thursday, February 24, 2011, the following members were present:

Bill Gallagher, Chairman
Brad Molnar, Vice Chairman
Gail Gutsche, Commissioner, via telephone
Travis Kavulla, Commissioner

Commissioner Vincent was excused, but left his proxy with Commissioner Gutsche

APPEARANCE
Kate Whitney, Administrator
Regulatory Division

(126) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of February 7, 2011.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of February 7, 2011. Commissioner Gallagher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Gary Duncan, Regulatory Division

(127) In the matter of N2011.2.14: On February 3, 2011, CenturyLink filed Advice No. 11-01.

Commissioner Gutsche moved to APPROVE CenturyLink Advice No. 11-01 in Docket No. N2011.2.14. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(128) In the matter of N2011.2.16: On February 8, 2011, CenturyLink filed Advice No. 11-02.

Commissioner Molnar moved to APPROVE CenturyLink Advice No. 11-02 in Docket No. N2011.2.16. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Al Brogan, Administrator, Legal Division

(129) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. DDV 2011-79: NorthWestern Energy, Petition for Judicial Review of Public Service Commission Order No. 7046h:

Commissioner Gallagher moved to AUTHORIZE staff (Al Brogan) to enter into settlement negotiations with the parties. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Jim Paine, Legal Division
Brian DeKiep and Will Rosquist, Regulatory Division

(130) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No.ER10-1138-000: FERC schedule 3 filing, consider filing PSC settlement positions and request for clarifications.

Commissioner Gutsche moved to DIRECT staff to address the four issues outlined at the headings of the four sections identified in the draft for clarifications and settlement position in preparation of filing tomorrow in FERC ER10-1138-000. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Brian DeKiep, Regulatory Division
Jim Paine, Legal Division

(131) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. RM10-11-000: FERC Docket No. RM10-11-000, comments to FERC on variable energy resources (VER) notice of proposed rulemaking (NOPR). Consider joining OMS comments to FERC on the VER NOPR and consider drafting and sending Public Service Commission comments to FERC regarding NOPR.

MOTION 1: Commissioner Kavulla moved to DIRECT staff to draft comments and to give Commissioner Molnar the authority to vote at the OMS board of directors meeting. Commissioner Gallagher seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioner Gutsche voted Nay.

MOTION 2: Commissioner Gutsche moved to APPROVE the comments in the draft outline form as provided. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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

W.A. GALLAGHER, Chairman

BRAD MOLNAR, Vice Chairman

GAIL GUTSCHE, Commissioner

TRAVIS KAVULLA, Commissioner

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 Friday, February 25, 2011, the following members were present:

Bill Gallagher, Chairman
Brad Molnar, Vice Chairman, via telephone
Gail Gutsche, Commissioner, via telephone
Travis Kavulla, Commissioner
John Vincent, Commissioner, via telephone

APPEARANCE

Justin Kraske, Legal Division

(132) In the matter of House Bill 100 for the 2011 Legislative Session.

Discussion only to continue to MONITOR HB 100.

(133) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No FERC ER-10-000: NorthWestern Energy's Schedule 3 hearing. The motion from yesterday will stand.

APPEARANCE

Jim Paine, Legal Division

(134) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2010.8.82: MDU electric general rate case possibility of settlement of the issues.

Commissioner Molnar moved to postpone the hearing, and upon receipt of the settlement, reschedule the hearing in Docket No. D2010.8.82. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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

W.A. GALLAGHER, Chairman

BRAD MOLNAR, Vice Chairman

GAIL GUTSCHE, Commissioner

TRAVIS KAVULLA, Commissioner

JOHN VINCENT, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Verna Stewart
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)