

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Thursday, July 7, 2011, the following members were present:

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

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator, Regulatory Division

(284) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of June 13, 2011:

MOTION 1: Commissioner Gallagher moved to AMEND the minutes of June 13, 2011, to reflect that he was excused, voted several specific issues leaving them with the Commission Secretary, but left his proxy on certain other issues with Commissioner Molnar. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MOTION 2: Commissioner Gutsche moved to APPROVE the minutes as corrected for the week of June 13, 2011. Chairman Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Mike Dalton, Regulatory Division

(285) In the matter of N2011.6.51: On June 16, 2011, CenturyLink filed Advice No. 11-07. In this filing CenturyTel is requesting to introduce a competitive response program available to business customers.

Chairman Kavulla moved to APPROVE CenturyLink Advice No. 11-07 in Docket N2011.6.51. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Eric Dahlgren, Regulatory Division

(286) In the matter of T-11.13.ST: Larson Disposal and Transport LLC, Seeley Lake, Montana filed an application to transfer PSC No. 1455, Sub A and B only, to Allied Waste Services of North America, LLC, Missoula, Montana.

Commissioner Gutsche moved to APPROVE the transfer of PSC No. 1455, Sub A and Sub B, to Allied Waste Services of North America, LLC. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(287) In the matter of TN2503: Flathead Area Custom Transportation, Inc. dba Kalispell Taxi & Airport Shuttle Service, Kalispell, Montana requests permission to lease PSC No. 9364 to Jeanne M. Herron d/b/a Drive4U, Whitefish, Montana for one year, July 7, 2011, to July 7, 2012.

Commissioner Gallagher moved to APPROVE the lease of PSC No. 9364 as requested. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Jim Paine, Legal Division

(288) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of D2011.5.41: NorthWestern Energy's application for certification of its Spion Kop Wind Project to consider the Motions for Protective Orders from Sagebrush, Invenergy and Compass Wind et al as well as Lee Newspapers' Motion for Leave to Participate.

Chairman Kavulla moved to APPROVE the order as drafted. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion. At the request of Commissioner Vincent, and as agreed to by the movant and seconded, the motion was divided into two parts, one concerning that part of the order granting the protective orders and one concerning that part of the order granting the limited intervention of Lee Newspapers.

AMENDED MOTION 1: The motion to GRANT protective orders passed 3 to 2. Commissioner Gutsche and Commissioner Vincent voted no.

AMENDED MOTION 2: The motion to GRANT limited interventions to the Lee Newspapers passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Sarah Norcott, Legal Division

(289) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of D2011.6.54: NorthWestern Energy Application for Approval of 2011 Avoided Cost Compliance Filing Schedule QFLT-1.

Chairman Kavulla moved to APPROVE the time extension to NorthWestern Energy. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Travis Kavulla, Chairman

(290) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of recommendation for the Governor's Award for Excellence in Performance:

Commissioner Gutsche moved to RECOMMEND Joel Tierney and Eric Dahlgren for the Governor's Awards for Excellence in Performance, relative to their work in pipeline safety. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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

TRAVIS KAVULLA, Chairman

GAIL GUTSCHE, Vice Chair

W. A. GALLAGHER, Commissioner

BRAD MOLNAR, Commissioner

JOHN VINCENT, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Judy Scheier
Assistant Commission Secretary

(SEAL)