

Minutes for the week of August 1, 2011

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Tuesday August 2, 2011, at 9:30 a.m. the following members were present:

Travis Kavulla, via phone
Gail Gutsche, Acting Chair
Bill Gallagher, Commissioner
Brad Molnar, Commissioner

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

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator, Regulatory Division

(313) In the matter of the Commission's minutes for the weeks of July 25, 2011.

Commissioner Molnar moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of July 25, 2011. Commissioner Gallagher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Scott Fabel, Regulatory Division

(314) In the matter of N2011.7.60, N2011.7.61, and N2011.7.62: Qwest requested the approval of the Company's fictitious name d/b/a CenturyLink QC for the Revised Access Service Tariff, Revised Private Line Transportation Services Tariffs, and Revised Exchange and Network Services Tariffs.

Commissioner Gallagher moved to APPROVE combining action items one, two, three, and to APPROVE Qwest Tariff Transmittal in Docket N2011.7.60, N2011.7.61, and N2011.7.62. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Leroy Beeby, Regulatory Division
Justin Kraske, Legal Division

(315) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of D2009.9.117: Landmark Water Co., LLC application for an interim rate increase to its water rates as a result of increased water costs from River Rock Water and Sewer District.

Commissioner Gallagher moved to APPROVE the draft final order. Acting Chair Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Jim Paine, Legal Division

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(316) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of D2011.5.41: NorthWestern Energy's application for approval to purchase and operate the Spion Kop Wind Project, for certification of the Spion Kop Wind Project as an eligible renewable resource, and for related relief, discuss and act on Invenergy Wind Development's Motion for General Intervention.

Commissioner Gallagher moved to APPROVE Invenergy Wind Development's Motion for General Intervention. Acting Chair Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Jim Paine, Legal Division

(317) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of D2011.5.41: NorthWestern Energy's application for approval to purchase and operate the Spion Kop Wind project, for certification of the Spion Kop Wind Project as an eligible renewable resource, and for related relief, discuss and act on General Electric Energy's Motion for Limited Intervention and issuance of a protective order.

MOTION 1: Commissioner Gallagher moved to APPROVE General Electric Energy's Motion for Limited Intervention. Acting Chair Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

MOTION 2: Commissioner Gallagher moved to APPROVE issuance of a protective order to General Electric. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Jim Paine, Legal Division

(318) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of D2010.7.77: NWE application for approval of Avoided Cost Tariff for new qualifying facilities.

Chairman Kavulla moved to DENY General Electric Energy's Motion for Protective Order. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator, Regulatory Division

(319) In the matter of the Commission's approval of Out of State staff travel: Brian Dekiep and Bob Decker are planning an ARRA funded travel to the Transmission Summit West 2011 conference September 19-21, 2011 in San Francisco; and Brian Dekiep plans on attending the State-Provincial Steering Committee & Committee on Regional Electric Power Cooperation meeting October 26-27, 2011 in Monterey, CA.

Acting Chair Gutsche moved to APPROVE the travel requests. Commissioner Gallagher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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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:

Aleisha Solem
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)