

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Thursday, September 8, 2011, the following members were present:

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

APPEARANCE

Brenda Koch, Centralized Services

(347) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of August 29, 2011.

Commissioner Gutsche moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of August 29, 2011 August 29, 2011. Chairman Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator, Regulatory Division

(348) In the matter of N2011.7.65: On July 28, 2011, NorthWestern Energy filed a revised electric line extension tariff to bring the tariff into compliance with a law enacted by the 2011 Legislature (HB 291) and to make other clarifying changes to the tariff.

Chairman Kavulla moved to APPROVE NorthWestern Energy's revised electric line extension tariff in Docket No. N2011.7.65. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which was later withdrawn by Chairman Kavulla.

APPEARANCE

Eric Dahlgren, Regulatory Division

(349) In the matter of T-11.20.RRV: On August 8, 2011 a request for an overhead clearance variance by Exxon Mobil Refining & Supply was noticed to the public.

Commissioner Molnar moved to APPROVE the variance as requested. Commissioner Gallagher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(350) In the matter of TN2508: Fred M. Zweifel d/b/a Circle Z Enterprises, Virginia City, Montana requests permission to suspend PSC No. 9270 for a six month period, September 18, 2011 to March 18, 2012.

Commissioner Vincent moved to APPROVE Circle Z Enterprises request for Suspension in TN2508. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Justin Kraske, Legal Division

(351) In the matter of D2011.6.45: NorthWestern Energy Application for Townsend Propane Supply cost account balance and rate adjustment. Discuss and act Montana Consumer Counsel's petition for late intervention.

Commissioner Gutsche moved to GRANT Montana Consumer Counsel's Petition for Late Intervention. Chairman Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Jim Paine, Legal Division

(352) In the matter of N2477: Lightning Ram d/b/a Shuttle to Big Sky and Taxi request to split its authority. Consider and act on Classic Limo's motion for reconsideration after oral argument by Classic Limo on August 2.

Commissioner Vincent moved to DENY motion for reconsideration. Chairman Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioner Molnar dissented.

APPEARANCE

Brian DeKiep, Regulatory Division

(353) In the matter of FERC Notice of Inquiry on Transmission Rate Incentives - consider joining comments of large stakeholders group to FERC on the Transmission Rate Incentive Notice of Inquiry.

Commissioner Molnar moved to JOIN the Sunrise Coalition comments to FERC on Transmission Rate Incentive. Commissioner Gallagher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Brian DeKiep & Kim Moran, Regulatory Division

(354) In the matter of OMS comments to FERC - consider joining OMS comment to FERC on MISO's recent Resource Adequacy filing and other possible comments to FERC relating to the OMS Board of Directors on September 8, 2011.

MOTION 1: Chairman Kavulla moved to JOIN OMS comments to FERC relating to compensation for demand response. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. Commissioner Vincent did not vote.

MOTION 2: Commissioner Molnar moved to SIGN ON with OMS's request with FERC and with the comments that are being proposed as they are proposed. Chairman Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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

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TRAVIS KAVULLA, Chairman

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GAIL GUTSCHE, Vice Chair

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W. A. GALLAGHER, Commissioner

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BRAD MOLNAR, Commissioner

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JOHN VINCENT, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Brenda Koch  
Assistant Commission Secretary

(SEAL)