

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on July 3, 2012, the following members were present:

Travis Kavulla, Chairman
Brad Molnar, Commissioner
John Vincent, Commissioner

Commissioners Gutsche and Gallagher were excused. Commissioner Gutsche left her proxy with Commissioner Vincent and Commissioner Gallagher left his proxy with Commissioner Molnar.

APPEARANCE

Aleisha Solem, Commission Secretary

(201) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of June 25, 2012.

Commissioner Vincent moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of June 25, 2012. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Dennis Lopach, Administrator, Legal Division

(202) In the matter of Docket No. N2012.4.42: FCC ordered July 1, 2012 transition of intrastate access charges, Citizens Telecommunications Company of Montana d/b/a Frontier Communications of Montana Motion for Protective Order.

Commissioner Vincent moved to APPROVE the Protective Order. Chairman Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Dennis Lopach, Administrator, Legal Division
Jason Brown, Legal Division

(203) In the matter of Docket No. D2012.1.3: NorthWestern Energy's application for approval of avoided cost tariff for new qualifying facilities, Motion to Compel filed by United Materials of Great Falls, Inc., and Exergy Development Group.

Chairman Kavulla moved to APPROVE the Notice of Commission Action denying in part the motion to compel and granting in part. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Bob Decker and Brian DeKiep, Regulatory Division
Jason Brown, Legal Division

(204) In the matter of Docket No. D2012.3.24: Montana-Dakota Utilities petition for certification of Eligible Renewable Resources and Community Renewable Energy Resources.

Commissioner Molnar moved to REVISE the Order and ISSUE it as a Final Order, CERTIFY Diamond Willow as a 30 MW Eligible Renewable Energy Resource facility, DENY the petition to certify Diamond Willow 1 and 2 as Community Renewable Energy Projects (CREPs), DENY Diamond Willow 2 as an Eligible Renewable Energy Resource, and CERTIFY Cedar Hills wind farm as a CREP and as an Eligible Renewable Energy Resource. Chairman Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Bob Decker and Brian DeKiep, Regulatory Division
Jason Brown, Legal Division

(205) In the matter of Docket No. D2011.6.53: NorthWestern Energy's petition for a waiver from full compliance with the Community Renewable Energy Project purchase obligation, NorthWestern Energy's motion for partial reconsideration.

Chairman Kavulla moved to DENY the Motion for partial reconsideration. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed 4 to 1. Commissioner Gallagher dissenting.

APPEARANCE

Justin Kraske, Legal Division

(206) In the matter of Docket No. D2012.3.20: Energy West Inc.'s application for waiver of ring-fencing requirements and for authorization to engage in financing transactions.

Chairman Kavulla moved to APPOINT Justin Kraske as Hearing Officer for the limited purpose of addressing discovery matters. 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:

Aleisha Solem
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)