

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on September 18, 2012, the following members were present:

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

APPEARANCE

Aleisha Solem, Commission Secretary

(262) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of September 10, 2012.

Commissioner Vincent moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of September 10, 2012. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Mike Dalton, Regulatory Division

(263) In the matter of Docket No. D2008.6.64, D2008.4.33, and D2001.1.7: Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink's applications for approval of amendments to existing interconnection agreements.

Chairman Kavulla moved to APPROVE the interconnection agreement between Qwest Corp. d/b/a CenturyLink and XO Communication, LLC in Docket No. D2008.6.64, Qwest Corp. d/b/a CenturyLink and Bandwidth.com CLEC, LLC in Docket No. D2008.4.33, and Qwest Corp. d/b/a CenturyLink and McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc. d/b/a PAETEC Business Services d/b/a Windstream Communications in Docket No. D2001.1.7. Commissioner Gallagher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Eric Eck, Regulatory Division

(264) In the matter of Docket No. D2012.8.90: MDU Resource Group, Inc.'s application for authority to issue securities.

Chairman Kavulla moved to APPROVE MDU's application to issue securities for a period ending December 31, 2014. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Leroy Beeby, Regulatory Division

(265) In the matter of Docket No. D2009.12.154: Mountain Water's annual tracking adjustment.

Commissioner Gutsche moved to APPROVE Mountain Water's request to defer the rate change to next year and reflect the change in the loan costs in the 2012 annual tracker filing. Chairman Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Nickie Eck, Transportation Unit

(266) In the matter of TN2550: South Lake Taxi's request to continue lease of PSC No. 9479.

Commissioner Gallagher moved to APPROVE the continuation of lease of PSC No. 9479 as requested. Chairman Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Gary Duncan, Regulatory Division  
Justin Kraske, Legal Division

(267) In the matter of Docket No. N2012.4.36: Montana Eligible Telecommunications Carriers.

Chairman Kavulla moved to APPROVE the 2012 certification letter to the FCC and USAC for 2013 federal high-cost support. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Tina Shorten, Consumer Unit

(268) In the matter of Docket No. N2012.8.82: Operator Service Provider rate caps.

Chairman Kavulla moved to APPROVE the rate caps as presented. Commissioner Gallagher seconded the motion, which passed 4 to 1. Commissioner Molnar dissenting.

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:

Aleisha Solem  
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 Thursday, September 20, 2012, the following members were present:

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

Commissioner Vincent was excused due to technical difficulties.

APPEARANCE

Dennis Lopach, Administrator, Legal Division  
Dagan Lynch, Regulatory Division

(269) In the matter of D2012.3.25: NorthWestern Energy's application for approval of the purchase of the Battle Creek natural gas production reserves.

Chairman Kavulla moved to GRANT NWE's motion to admit testimony without the appearance of witnesses and to waive cross-examination of witnesses by the parties at the scheduled hearing on September 26, 2012 except for Patrick Callahan who shall appear either by telephone or in person. Commissioner Gutsche 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:

Aleisha Solem  
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)