

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on October 17, 2013, the following members were present:

Bill Gallagher, Chairman
Bob Lake, Vice Chairman
Kirk Bushman, Commissioner
Travis Kavulla, Commissioner
Roger Koopman, Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Aleisha Solem, Commission Secretary

(279) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of October 14, 2013.

Commissioner Lake moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of October 14, 2013. Commissioner Koopman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator, Regulatory Division

(280) In the matter of D2013.10.72 and D2013.10.73: Pass-Through of Fees Levied on Regulated Companies for Funding the Montana Consumer Counsel and Public Service Commission.

Commissioner Lake moved to APPROVE issuing the orders as drafted. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Brenda Koch, Transportation Unit

(281) In the matter of TN2590: The Estate of Thomas F. Kenneally requests permission to continue the lease of PSC No. 4448 to The McGree Corporation, Butte, Montana, for a one year period, October 12, 2013, to October 12, 2014.

Commissioner Koopman moved to APPROVE the renewing of the lease. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Brenda Koch, Transportation Unit

(282) In the matter of TN2591: Allen Charles Bowker and Melanie Jean Bowker dba Bowker Sanitation LLP, Culbertson, Montana, requests permission to lease PSC No. 5039 to Bowker Enterprises LLC, Culbertson, Montana for the period October 15, 2013, to December 15, 2013.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to APPROVE the lease. Commissioner Bushman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator, Regulatory Division
Scott Fabel, Will Rosquist, and Neil Templeton, Regulatory Division
Jason Brown, Legal Division

(283) In the matter of D2012.5.49: NorthWestern Energy's application for approval of 1) deferred cost account balances for electricity supply, CU4 variable costs/credits, and DGGS variable costs/credits; and 2) projected electricity supply cost rates, CU4 variable rates, and DGGS variable rates.

Chairman Gallagher moved to APPROVE the Order with changes as discussed subject to objection from commissioners when the Draft Order is circulated. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Justin Kraske, Administrator, Legal Division
Kim Moran, Regulatory Division

(284) In the matter of D2013.1.5 and D2013.7.55: Energy West Montana, Inc.'s application for approval of its Reconciliation of the Collections and Disbursements of its Universal Systems Benefits Account.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to APPROVE the Final Order. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed 3 to 1. Commissioner Gallagher dissenting and Commissioner Koopman abstaining.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator, Regulatory Division
Kim Moran, Regulatory Division
Chris Shipp, Communications/Research Director

(285) In the matter of N2013.4.29: PSC Initiated – Investigation into electric and natural gas USB funding and programs.

Discussion only, no action was taken.

APPEARANCE

Bob Decker and David Lofftus, Regulatory Division
Chris Shipp, Communications/Research Director

(286) In the matter of Montana-Alberta Tie Line (MATL) informational session.

Discussion only, no action was taken.

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

W. A. GALLAGHER, Chairman

BOB LAKE Vice Chairman

KIRK BUSHMAN, Commissioner

TRAVIS KAVULLA, Commissioner

ROGER KOOPMAN, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Aleisha Solem
Assistant Commission Secretary

(SEAL)