

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on November 5, 2013, the following members were present:

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

Commissioner Koopman was excused for work session number five, and left his proxy with Commissioner Lake.

APPEARANCE

Aleisha Solem, Commission Secretary

(300) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of October 28, 2012.

Commissioner Lake moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of October 28, 2012. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed 4 to 0. Commissioner Koopman abstaining.

APPEARANCE

Scott Fabel, Regulatory Division

(301) In the matter of D2013.10.72 & D2013.10.73: NorthWestern Energy's application seeking authority to accumulate the under and over collections of MPSC and MCC taxes starting on October 1, 2013.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to APPROVE NWE's request to accrue under and over collections of the MPSC and MCC tax increases until the next general rate case. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Mike Dalton, Regulatory Division

(302) In the matter of D2013.8.59: CenturyTel dba CenturyLink's application for approval of an interconnection agreement.

Commissioner Koopman moved to APPROVE the proposed interconnection agreement. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Justin Kraske, Administrator, Legal Division

(303) In the matter of MAR Notice No. 38-5-222 notice of amendment pertaining to pipeline safety.

Commissioner Lake moved to APPROVE filing the notice with the Secretary of State. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator, Regulatory Division
Will Rosquist, Regulatory Division

(304) In the matter of N2013.10.74: NorthWestern Energy's intent to file an application regarding the purchase of PPL Montana, LLC's hydroelectric generating facilities in Montana.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to AUTHORIZE staff to issue an RFP to hire a modeling consultant and AUTHORIZE Will Rosquist to select a finalist that he will present to the Commission for approval. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator, Regulatory Division
Justin Kraske, Administrator, Legal Division

(305) In the matter of N2013.10.74: NorthWestern Energy's intent to file an application regarding the purchase of PPL Montana, LLC's hydroelectric generating facilities in Montana.

Commissioner Lake moved to AUTHORIZE staff to start the RFP process for an engineering consultant with the Department of Administration. Chairman Gallagher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Leroy Beeby, Regulatory Division
Justin Kraske, Administrator, Legal Division

(306) In the matter of D2012.7.81: Mountain Water Company's application to increase rates for water service in Missoula, MT.

Commissioner Lake moved to ACCEPT staff's recommendation on the ROE. Chairman Gallagher seconded the motion, which passed 4 to 1. Commissioner Kavulla dissenting.

Commissioner Lake moved to ACCEPT staff's recommendations on the other issues. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)