

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Thursday, October 5, 2017, at 9:30 a.m., the following members were present:

Brad Johnson, Chairman
Travis Kavulla, Vice Chairman
Bob Lake, Commissioner
Roger Koopman, Commissioner

Commissioner O'Donnell was excused from the meeting and left his proxy with Vice Chairman Kavulla.

Public comment was received from George Wolcott of the Ford Montana Foundation.

APPEARANCE

Rhonda Simmons, Commission Secretary

(179) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of September 18, 2017.

Vice Chairman Kavulla moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of September 18, 2017. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Jennifer Hill-Hart, Legal Division
Will Rosquist, Administrator, Regulatory Division
Robin Arnold, Regulatory Division

(180) In the matter of Docket No. N2017.8.68, the Commission Initiated Biennial Review of Interconnection Requirements and Rules for Customer-Generators, ARM 38.5.8401 *et seq.*

Vice Chairman Kavulla moved to APPROVE staff recommendation. Commissioner Koopman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Zach Rogala, Legal Division
Robin Arnold, Regulatory Division
Bob Decker, Regulatory Division

(181) In the matter of Docket No. D2017.6.52, the Agreement for Provision of Electric Service Facilities between NorthWestern Energy and Fergus Electric Cooperative.

Commissioner Lake moved to APPROVE staff recommendation and allow the reconsideration. Vice Chairman Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Robin Arnold, Regulatory Division
Zach Rogala, Legal Division

(182) In the matter of Docket No. D2017.8.63, NorthWestern Energy's request for approval to decrease the Bonneville Power Administration Residential Exchange Credit.

Vice Chairman Kavulla moved to APPROVE staff's recommended order. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Scott Fabel, Regulatory Division
Zach Rogala, Legal Division
Robin Arnold, Regulatory Division

(183) In the matter of Docket No. D2016.1.13, Miller Oil's Application to Implement an Annual True-up of its Propane Cost Tracking.

Vice Chairman Kavulla moved to APPROVE staff recommendation approving the application. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Robin Arnold, Regulatory Division
Bob Decker, Regulatory Division
Zach Rogala, Legal Division

(184) In the matter of Docket No. D2017.6.47, Energy West Montana, Inc.'s reconciliation of collections and disbursements of its Universal System Benefits Account.

Vice Chairman Kavulla moved to APPROVE staff recommendation. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3-1. Commissioner Koopman dissented. Vice Chairman Kavulla cast Commissioner O'Donnell's proxy as abstention.

APPEARANCE

Justin Kraske, Administrator, Legal Division
Will Rosquist, Administrator, Regulatory Division
Jennifer Hill-Hart, Legal Division
Jeremiah Langston, Legal Division (via phone)
Neil Templeton, Regulatory Division
Bob Decker, Regulatory Division,
Mike Dalton, Regulatory Division

(185) In the matter of the Docket No. D2016.5.39, NorthWestern Energy's Application for Approval of Avoided Cost Tariff Schedule QF-1.

Chairman Koopman moved to GRANT reconsideration. Vice Chairman Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Vice Chairman Kavulla moved to offer an omnibus motion to ADOPT a 15-year contract length, to apply this limitation symmetrically to all resources, reaffirming the commission order, but also to simultaneously issue separate comments in the Resource Planning Docket to deal with technical issues more fully, and to adopt general tariff changes described on page 21 of the staff memo. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion.

Vice Chairman Kavulla moved to DIVIDE the question. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 4-1. Commissioner Koopman dissented.

On the divided motion, the first element of the motion, to adopt the 15-year contract length, passed by a vote of 4-1. Commissioner Koopman dissented.

On the divided motion, the second element of the motion, the application of the 15-year limitation symmetrically to all resources, reaffirming the commission order, but also to simultaneously issue separate comments in the resource planning docket to deal with technical issues more fully, passed by a vote of 4-1. Commissioner Lake dissented.

On the divided motion, the third element of the motion, to adopt the general tariff changes described on page 21 of the staff memo, passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Justin Kraske, Chief Counsel/Administrator, Legal Division
Will Rosquist, Administrator, Regulatory Division
Jennifer Hill-Hart, Legal Division
Jeremiah Langston, Legal Division (via phone)
Neil Templeton, Regulatory Division
Bob Decker, Regulatory Division,
Mike Dalton, Regulatory Division

(186) In the matter of Docket No. D2016.12.103, the Petition of MTSUN, LLC to Set Terms and Conditions for Qualifying Small Power Production Facility pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. § 69-3-603.

Vice Chairman Kavulla moved to GRANT reconsideration. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

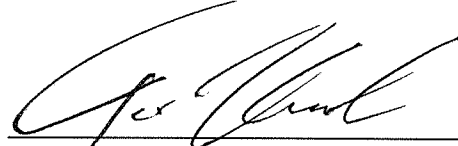
Commissioner Lake moved to MODIFY the length of the contract to be consistent with the decision just made, and move it to a 15-year term. Vice Chairman Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 4-1. Commissioner Koopman dissented.

Vice Chairman Kavulla moved to DIRECT staff to prepare an analysis for inclusion in the final order that will be subject to review by Commissioners, and incorporate conforming language on symmetry. Commissioner Koopman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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



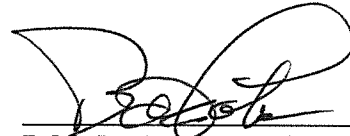
BRAD JOHNSON, Chairman



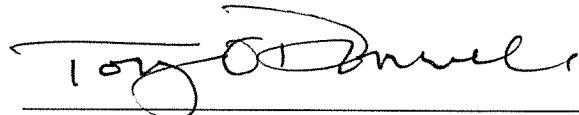
TRAVIS KAVULLA, Vice Chairman



ROGER KOOPMAN, Commissioner

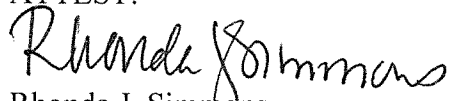


BOB LAKE, Commissioner



TONY O'DONNELL, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Rhonda J. Simmons
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)