

*Montana PSC – One Week Calendar of Scheduled Events
(This is not an official schedule of PSC activities)*

September 21 – September 25, 2020

MONDAY 21	
TUESDAY 22	<p>9:00 AM – Weekly Scheduling (No web audio feed) 9:30 AM – Business (Conducted using Zoom, audio only) Call To Order Pledge of Allegiance Public Comment – Please call the Consumer Assistance Line at 800-646-6150 and follow the directions provided on page four of the Agenda. Action Items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approval of Commission Minutes. 2. 2020.07.086 – Ronan Telephone Company – 2020 Intrastate Montana Special Access Rate Charges. 3. 2020.07.087 – Ronan Telephone Company – 2020 Interest Rate Change. <p>Work Sessions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2020.08.090 – NorthWestern Energy – NorthWestern Energy’s Application for Approval of its BPA Residential Exchange Credit – To discuss and decide on NorthWestern’s Application to adjust its BPA Residential Exchange Program Credit rate beginning October 1, 2020. 2. 2019.12.101 – NorthWestern Energy – NorthWestern’s Application for Pre-Approval of a Capacity Resource – To make a decision on Southeastern Montana Development Corporation’s request to withdraw as intervener/ To make a decision on NorthWestern’s Motion in Limine. 3. 2020.07.078 – NorthWestern Energy – Petition for Certification of Eligible Renewable Resources and Community Renewable Energy Projects (“CREPs”) – To discuss and consider NorthWestern’s Petition and certification. 4. 2020.07.088 – Havre Pipeline Company – Havre Pipeline Company’s Application to Adjust Rates and Charges to its Direct Rural Farmstead Customers – To consider Havre Pipeline Company’s request for an interim rate of \$0.9475 per thousand cubic feet. 5. Commission Initiated – PSC and MCC Tax Rate – To request approval of the PSC and MCC Tax Rate effective 10/1/2020 through 9/30/2021. 6. 2019.08.053 – Public Service Commission – The Commission’s Small Generator Interconnection Rulemaking – To discuss and decide on NorthWestern Energy’s Motion for Reconsideration. 7. Commission Initiated – Electricity Capacity and Adequacy in the Pacific Northwest and any impacts on Montana Electricity Customers – To discuss and decide whether the Commission should initiate a docket to study or investigate electricity resource adequacy and capacity in the Pacific Northwest and Montana and whether to send out letters to request responsive information.
WEDNESDAY 23	

THURSDAY 24	
FRIDAY 25	

9:30 AM Tuesday, September 29, 2020, Commission Business Meeting

MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**AGENDA NO. 20-09-22**

Date Published: September 17, 2020

For Week Commencing: September 21, 2020

Place of Meetings: All meetings are usually held at the Commission's office, 1701 Prospect Avenue, in Helena, Montana. However, due to the directives resulting from COVID-19, the Scheduling and Business Meetings will be held through Zoom beginning April 7, 2020, until further notice.

Commission Meetings:

Commission Scheduling Meeting: Tuesday, September 22, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

Commission Business Meeting: Tuesday, September 22, 2020, 9:30 a.m.

Action Items

All items identified below are for action at the Commission's Business Meeting this week:

1. Approval of Commission Minutes (Vicki)

Approval of the Commission Minutes for the week of September 7, 2020.

2. Ronan Telephone Company 2020.07.086 (Mike)

On July 14, 2020, Ronan Telephone Company ("Ronan") filed a request to adjust its Intrastate Montana Special Access Charge. The proposed change would amend Ronan's Intrastate Montana Special Access Charge so that it mirrors Ronan's Interstate Special Access Charge. The FCC approved Ronan's Interstate Special Access Charge on July 1, 2020. Ronan does not have any customers that take service under the Intrastate Montana Special Access Rate, but Ronan mirrors its Intrastate Montana Special Access Charge with its Interstate Special Access Charge for administrative billing purposes. The effect of this rate adjustment on a typical circuit changes the net monthly cost from \$556.83 per circuit per month to \$710.29 per circuit per month. The filing is available for viewing on the Commission's website. Interested persons may submit comments to the Commission no later than August 31, 2020, by email to psc_utilitycomment@mt.gov or mail comments to P.O. Box 202601, Helena, MT 59620-2601. Any comments that are submitted through mail must clearly identify the docket number in question.

3. Ronan Telephone Company 2020.07.087 (Mike)

On July 14, 2020, Ronan Telephone Company ("Ronan") filed a request to adjust its Billing Disputes Late Fee interest charge. The proposed adjustment reduces the interest rate for billing dispute late fees from 12% annually to 10.65% annually. The 10.65% annual rate has been approved by the FCC, and Ronan requests the Commission approve its proposed adjustment to the intrastate billing dispute late charge so the intrastate and interstate billing dispute late charges are the same. The filing is available for viewing on the Commission's website.

Interested persons may submit comments to the Commission no later than August 31, 2020, by email to psc_utilitycomment@mt.gov or mail comments to P.O. Box 202601, Helena, MT 59620-2601. Any comments that are submitted through mail must clearly identify the docket number in question.

Work Sessions

All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action at the Commission's Business Meeting this week:

1. 2020.08.090 – NorthWestern Energy – NorthWestern Energy's Application for Approval of its BPA Residential Exchange Credit – To discuss and decide on NorthWestern's Application to adjust its BPA Residential Exchange Program Credit rate beginning October 1, 2020. (09/22/20)
2. 2019.12.101 – NorthWestern Energy – NorthWestern's Application for Pre-Approval of a Capacity Resource – To make a decision on Southeastern Montana Development Corporation's request to withdraw as intervener. To make a decision on NorthWestern's Motion in Limine. (09/22/20)
3. 2020.07.078 – NorthWestern Energy – Petition for Certification of Eligible Renewable Resources and Community Renewable Energy Projects ("CREPs") – To consider NorthWestern's Petition and certification. (09/22/20)
4. 2020.07.088 – Havre Pipeline Company – Havre Pipeline Company's Application to Adjust Rates and Charges to its Direct Rural Farmstead Customers – To consider Havre Pipeline Company's request for an interim rate of \$0.9475 per thousand cubic feet. (09/22/20)
5. Commission Initiated – PSC and MCC Tax Rate – To request approval of the PSC and MCC Tax Rate effective 10/1/2020 through 9/30/2021. (09/22/20)
6. 2019.08.053 – Public Service Commission – The Commission's Small Generator Interconnection Rulemaking – To discuss and decide on NorthWestern Energy's Motion for Reconsideration. (09/22/20)
7. Commission Initiated – Electricity Capacity and Adequacy in the Pacific Northwest and any impacts on Montana Electricity Customers – To discuss and decide whether the Commission should initiate a docket to study or investigate electricity resource adequacy and capacity in the Pacific Northwest and Montana and whether to send out letters to request responsive information. (09/22/20)

Other Meetings:

None.

Notice Items: All items identified below are noticed for public involvement purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the Notice, the items will be action items on a subsequent Agenda. Public Comments on this Agenda's items need to be submitted within 5 calendar days following publication of this Agenda. Public comments on a noticed matter must be submitted within the required deadline provided in the Notice. Please refer to the "Public Involvement" item in this Agenda for options and assistance.

None.

Transportation Notice Items: Motor carriers with proper standing may protest Applications. Protests related to an Application for Class A, B, and E passenger authority is limited to a protest of the motor carrier's ability to meet the requirements of Mont. Code Ann. §§ 69-12-323(5) and 69-12-415. Protests must include the proper fee, as required by Mont. Admin. R. 38.3.402(c), and conform to the requirements at Mont. Admin. R. 38.3.405 or 38.3.406, as applicable. Protest forms are available on the Commission's website <http://psc.mt.gov/Regulated-Utilities/Compliance-Materials#Transportation-2885>. If no written protests are received by the deadline, the Commission may issue a final decision on the Application (including a decision by delegation of authority to Commission staff pursuant to established internal operating procedures) without a public hearing, pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. § 69-12-321.

1. Polson Taxi Company, Inc. 2020.09.096 (Susie)

Polson Taxi Company, Inc., 410 1st St. E #7 Polson, MT 59860 filed an Application for a Class B Certificate of Compliance, transporting passengers in rate regulated service between all points and places within the state of Montana.

Protective Orders – Notice Items: The Commission has received the following requests for Protective Order(s) pursuant to Mont. Admin. R. 38.2.5007. Comments on the requests may be submitted at any time prior to ruling. Copies of these requests may be viewed on the Commission's website <http://psc.mt.gov>.

1. Montana-Dakota Utilities, Co. 2020.06.076 (Ashley)

On September 4, 2020, Montana-Dakota Utilities, Co. ("MDU") filed a Motion for an Order Protecting Information Requested in Data Requests MCC-016(d), MCC-018, MCC-019, MCC-020, MCC-032, and MCC-039. MDU alleges these data requests seek information that is proprietary, confidential, and copyright-protected and as such are trade secrets or are otherwise entitled to protection from public disclosure pursuant to Mont. Admin. R. 38.2.5007 and Montana law.

Protective Orders – Information Items: The Commission has issued the following Protective Order(s). These Order(s) may be challenged pursuant to Mont. Admin. R. 38.2.5008. Copies of the Order(s) may be viewed on the Commission's website <http://psc.mt.gov>.

None.

Information Items: All items identified below are for *information only*.

None.

New Regulatory Filings Received in Past Week:

1. 2020.09.095 – Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. – Application to Implement a Gas Cost Tracking Adjustment Change October 2020.

New Transportation Filings Received in Past Week:

None.

General Information: This is the Commission's Agenda for the week designated above. The Agenda is posted a week in advance on the public information bulletin board at the Commission's office, is emailed to all persons who have requested notice by email, and is posted on the Commission's website <http://psc.mt.gov>.

Public Involvement: The Commission invites the public's involvement in its proceedings. Options are:

- (1) provide written comments at the Commission's website <http://psc.mt.gov>, select "Documents & Proceedings" Tab; select "Comment on a Proceeding", select "Continue as Guest", complete form, select "Submit";
- (2) get on the Commission's "Watch List" for a Docket at the Commission's website <http://psc.mt.gov>, select "EDDI" icon on the main page, create an account for "ePass", under "Watch List" Tab enter the Docket number—the Commission's case you are interested in following;
- (3) **beginning April 7, 2020, until further notice, listen to the meeting's "Live Webcast" from your computer at <http://psc.mt.gov/livestream>; there is no video, only audio.** Please note that if the Commission takes a break and the live stream ends, it needs to be refreshed in the user's browser or restarted once the break is over. However, if the stream is refreshed/restarted too early, it will just loop the end of the previous stream (in this case, you will need to refresh again after the new stream has started).
- (4) **attending a Commission meeting in person and providing comments is suspended until further notice; however,** the following process will be utilized for those wishing to provide public comment:
 - a. Please call the Commission's toll-free number at 800-646-6150. You will need to leave a message. A Consumer Assistance Representative will return your call.
 - b. You need to call the Commission's toll-free number by 4:30 p.m. on the day before the scheduled Business Meeting so there is sufficient time for a Consumer Assistance Representative to return your call.
 - c. When your call is returned, you will need to provide your name; the docket number or a description of the docket on which you wish to provide comment; your phone number; and your email address.

- d. You will be given an identifier, such as “Commenter 1, 2, etc.” This identifier will be how you are recognized to provide public comment during the business meeting.
 - e. Once you have provided public comment at the business meeting, you will no longer be able to provide public comment. You may stay in the meeting, or you may leave the meeting and continue to listen in on the Commission’s live stream.
 - f. You may also provide written comments as outlined in paragraph (1) under “Public Involvement.” These comments are not made publicly available, but are provided to the docket work team and Commissioners.
- (5) sign up on the Commission’s “Lyris List” to receive Notices by email for the following categories: Rules, Motor Carrier, Energy West Applications, MCC & PSC Taxes, MDU Applications, NorthWestern Energy Applications, PSC Orders, Telecommunications Applications, PSC Agendas, and PSC Hearings.
- (6) mail written comments to the Commission’s office, 1701 Prospect Ave., P.O. Box 202601, Helena, MT 59620-2601;
- (7) contact your District’s Commissioner; and
- (8) contact the Commission’s Consumer Assistance staff at 1-800-646-6150 or email pschelp@mt.gov. They are happy to assist you!

Live Webcast: Beginning April 7, 2020, visit <http://psc.mt.gov/livestream> to listen to the livestream of Commission’s meetings and hearings. Because they will be conducted using Zoom, only audio will be available to the public until further notice.

Inquiries: For general inquiries concerning this Agenda, contact Amber Koop at (406) 444-6199 or the Commission’s Consumer Assistance Staff at 1-800-646-6150.

Accommodations for Individuals: Individuals needing accommodations to attend or participate at a Commission meeting or hearing may contact the Commission at (406) 444-6170, or by email Vicki.LaFond-Smith@mt.gov, prior to the meeting or hearing. The Commission will make every effort to provide assistance.

****Qualifies for Staff Action. Upon receipt of a written request by a Commissioner or an interested person submitted within five (5) business days of the date published on this Agenda, the Commission will review this item.***