

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
AGENDA NO. 14-12-02**

Date Published: November 26, 2014
For Work Week Commencing: December 1, 2014
Commission Meeting: December 2, 2014, 1:15 p.m.

General Introduction This agenda is the Commission's agenda for the work week designated. In the latter part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, emailed to all persons who have properly requested notice by email, and posted to the Public Service Commission's worldwide web site located at <http://psc.mt.gov>.

Place of Meetings All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.

Live webcast Unless otherwise noted on this agenda, all Commission meetings held during regular business hours that are noticed on this agenda will be webcast live via the audio and video feed links on the PSC website at <http://psc.mt.gov> (go to "Agendas & Meetings" then "Audio/Video Archives"). The audio feeds of meetings are also archived at the same website location.

Inquiries General inquiries concerning this agenda and subscribing to electronic notice may be made to Kate Whitney at (406) 444-3056. She may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.

1:15 p.m. Weekly Scheduling (Commission Conference Room – No Web Audio Feed)

1:30 p.m. Business (Bollinger Room)

Public Comments

Action Items All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.

1. Approval of Commission Minutes (Aleisha)

Approval of the Commission Minutes for the week of November 24, 2014

2. Project Telephone Co. N2014.11.83 (Gary)

On November 20, 2014 Project Telephone Company filed an application to amend its Section IV Exchange Services Tariff to include Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) and Primary Rate Interface (PRI). Project has requested the tariff become effective for service rendered on and after December 2, 2014. Probable Motion: Approve the amended tariff as filed.

3. NorthWestern Corporation (NOR) D2014.11.90 (Eric)

On November 17, 2014, NOR filed an application seeking authority to issue over a two-year period through and including December 31, 2016, some or all of the following kinds of securities not to exceed in the aggregate \$950 million. The specific types of issuances are: (1) Equity securities of Applicant not to exceed \$250 million, including without limitation, common stock, preferred stock, convertible or unconvertible preferred securities and hybrid securities issuable directly or indirectly by Applicant; (2) Secured debt securities of Applicant, not to exceed \$300 million, including, without limitation: (i) One or more series of First Mortgage Bonds to be issued under Applicant's Montana mortgage; (ii) One or more series of First Mortgage Bonds to be issued under Applicant's South Dakota mortgage; (iii) Other secured debt securities; (3) Unsecured debt securities of Applicant, not to exceed \$400 million, including without limitation, subordinated or unsubordinated unsecured debentures, debt securities, notes, commercial paper or other evidences of unsecured indebtedness. The Applicant will use the proceeds to support state-regulated public utility assets, the refunding or repayment of its outstanding obligations and other general corporate purposes. Probable Motion: Grant NorthWestern Corporation's application to issue various securities over a two-year period through December 31, 2016, in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$950 million.

Work Sessions All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated.

1. D2014.11.91 – Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC – Discuss and act on CenturyLink QC October 23, 2014 Motion for a Protective Order. (12/02/14)
2. Placeholder – PSC railroad bill draft – Review current iteration of bill draft and provide direction to work team. (12/02/14)

Other Meetings

Weekly Scheduling, Review of Monthly Calendars, and Docket Status Updates (if requested by a Commissioner).

Notice Items All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda. Public comments on a noticed matter may also be submitted within the required time through the PSC's web-based comment form at <http://psc.mt.gov/Consumers/comments>. Comments should reference the docket number of the matter.

Protective Orders – Notice Items The Commission has received the following requests for protective order pursuant to ARM 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 web site at <http://psc.mt.gov>

1. Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink N2014.4.44 (Gary)

On November 21, 2014 CenturyLink filed a Motion for Protective Order in Docket No. N2014.4.44 – IN THE MATTER OF Ronan Telephone Co. and Hot Springs Telephone Co. Rulemaking Petition, to Repeal PSC EAS Rules

ARM 38.5.1301 through 38.5. CenturyLink wishes to protect data it has collected regarding the net cost of expanding EAS into its entire serving area within the 648 LATA which encompasses western Montana. That data includes (1) lost revenues, (2) additional costs that would be incurred, and (3) current costs that would be avoided.

3. NorthWestern Energy D2013.5.33/D2014.5.46 (Jason)

On November 21, 2014, NorthWestern Corporation, doing business as NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern), filed a Motion for Protective Order and Brief in Support to protect as trade secret certain information to be filed in this Docket. Specifically, NorthWestern seeks to protect itemized coal cost information related to the power plant in Colstrip, Montana, including specific contract terms and details about coal quality and pricing.

Protective Orders – Information Items the Commission has issued the following protective orders. These orders may be challenged pursuant to ARM 38.2.5008. Copies of these orders may be viewed on the Commission's web site at <http://psc.mt.gov>

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

New Filings Received in Past Week

D2014.11.94 - Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. - Application to Implement a Fuel and Purchased Power Cost Tracking Adjustment - Rate 35