

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
AGENDA NO. 16-1-5**

Date Published: December 31, 2015

For Work Week Commencing: January 4, 2016

Commission Meeting: Tuesday, January 5, 2016, 9:00 a.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 *Visit <http://www.psc.mt.gov/video.asp> to watch live stream of Commission meetings.*

Inquiries *General inquiries concerning this agenda and subscribing to electronic notice may be made to Sandy Scherer at (406) 444-6180. 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.*

**9:00 a.m. Weekly Scheduling** (Commission Conference Room – No Web Audio Feed)

**9:30 a.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 December 21, 2015.

2. Out-of-state staff travel (Justin)

Staff requests approval for Tina Shorten to travel to Washington, DC, February 13 - 17, 2016, to attend the NARUC Winter Committee Meetings for the purpose of participating in the Consumer Affairs and Energy Resources and Environment meetings. Tina is an active member of both staff subcommittees. Probable Motion: Move to approve the travel request.

3. City Cab T-15-54.COC (Brenda)

On November 24, 2015, Willson LLC dba City Cab, Billings, Montana filed an application for a Certificate of Compliance. That application was noticed to the public on December 4, 2015 and no protests were received. Probable Motion: Approve the grant of a Certificate of Compliance as applied for.

Class B - Passengers in non-rate regulated service, between all points and places in the State of Montana.

4. Bozeman, Big Sky and Beyond Transport T-15.55.COC (Brenda)

On November 24, 2015, Vance Vanderpan dba Bozeman, Big Sky and Beyond Transport, Belgrade, Montana filed an application for a Certificate of Compliance. That application was noticed to the public on December 4, 2015 and no protests were received. Probable Motion: Approve the grant of a Certificate of Compliance as applied for.

Class B - Passengers in non-rate regulated service, between all points and places in the State of Montana.

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

1. N2015.3.26 – PSC Initiated – Discuss and receive Commission direction on the Report on Investigation. (1/5/16)

**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.

1. NorthWestern Corporation (NOR) D2015.12.97 (Scott)

On December 22, 2015, NOR filed an application seeking authority to issue over a two-year period through and including January 31, 2018, some or all of the following kinds of securities not to exceed in the aggregate \$1.05 billion. 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 \$350 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 \$450 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.

**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>

**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**

N2015.12.96 – Citizens Telecommunications Company of Montana d/b/a Frontier Communications of Montana – ISDN-PRI Bundled Service

D2015.12.97 – NorthWestern Energy - IN THE MATTER OF the Petition of NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy for Authority to Issue Securities

D2015.12.98 – Black Hills Corporation - Application for Authority to Establish a Quarterly Fuel Rate Rider