

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on May 18, 2015, the following members were present:

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

APPEARANCE

Aleisha Solem, Commission Secretary

(141) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of May 11, 2015.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of May 11, 2015. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Justin Kraske, Administrator, Legal Division

(142) In the matter of Out of state staff travel.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to APPROVE the out of state staff travel of Lori Sandru to attend the NARUC summer committee meeting in New York City, NY, July 11-15, 2015. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Mike Dalton, Regulatory Division

(143) In the matter of D2015.3.22, D2015.4.35, and D2015.4.37: Interconnection agreements between Citizens Telecommunications Company of Montana and CenturyLink Communications, LLC; Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Airus, Inc.; and Ronan Telephone Company and Level 3 Communications, Inc.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to APPROVE all the interconnection agreements between Citizens Telecommunications Company of Montana and CenturyLink Communications, LLC; Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Airus, Inc.; and Ronan Telephone Company and Level 3 Communications, Inc. Commissioner Koopman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Robin Arnold, Regulatory Division

(144) In the matter of D2015.3.30: NorthWestern Energy's application for approval of

NorthWestern's 2015 natural gas universal system benefits charge rate adjustment.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to APPROVE the Final Order. Commissioner Bushman seconded the motion, which passed 4 to 1. Commissioner Koopman dissenting.

APPEARANCE

Justin Kraske, Administrator, Legal Division
Jeremiah Langston, Legal Division
Scott Fabel, Regulatory Division

(145) In the matter of D2014.8.72: Montana-Dakota Utilities Company's application to increase general natural gas rates.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to APPROVE the circulated ROE language and DIRECTED staff to issue the Final Order. Commissioner Koopman seconded the motion, which passed 3 to 2. Commissioner Lake and Bushman dissenting.

APPEARANCE

Jeremiah Langston, Legal Division
Dagan Lynch, Regulatory Division

(146) In the matter of D2015.4.40: NorthWestern Energy's application for propane supply cost account balance and rate adjustment for Townsend propane supply.

Commissioner Koopman moved to APPROVE the Interim Order. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Jeremiah Langston and Jason Brown, Legal Division
Neil Templeton, Regulatory Division

(147) In the matter of D2013.5.34 and D2014.5.47: NorthWestern Energy's gas tracker.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to DENY NorthWestern's motion to strike testimony and TAKE under advisement the Motion to Reserve Issue. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Will Rosquist and Mike Dalton, Regulatory Division
Jason Brown, Legal Division

(148) In the matter of N2013.12.84: NorthWestern Energy's 2013 electricity supply resource procurement plan.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to ISSUE all comments including those discussed. Commissioner

Koopman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Laura Farkas, Legal Division
Dagan Lynch, Regulatory Division

(149) In the matter of D2011.4.35: Sleepy Hollow Oil and Gas LLC's application for authority to initiate natural gas service in and around Winifred, Montana.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to APPROVE the Stipulation and Final Order. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator, Regulatory Division
Bob Decker and Scott Fabel, Regulatory Division
Laura Farkas and Jason Brown, Legal Division

(150) In the matter of D2015.3.23: Greycliff Wind Prime LLC's petition for a declaratory ruling.

MAIN MOTION: Commissioner Koopman moved to DENY the petition for declaratory ruling for insufficient information. Chairman Johnson seconded the motion.

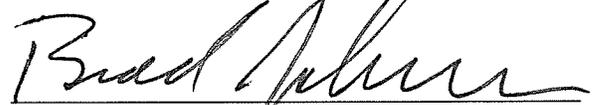
1st Motion to Amend: Commissioner Kavulla moved to AMEND the motion to decline the petition's definition of cash flow as income but to define income as the net income after EBITDA in effect distributive income.

The motion to amend was withdrawn.

2nd Motion to Amend: Commissioner Lake moved to PROVIDE written direction that income is based on the taxable income. The motion died for a lack of a second.

The main motion passed 4 to 1. Commission Kavulla dissenting.

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


BRAD JOHNSON, Chairman


TRAVIS KAVULLA, Vice Chairman


KIRK BUSHMAN, Commissioner


ROGER KOOPMAN, Commissioner


BOB LAKE, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Aleisha Solem
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)