

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on September 8, 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

(226) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of August 24, 2015.

Commissioner Lake moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of August 24, 2015. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator, Regulatory Division

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

Commissioner Bushman moved to APPROVE the out of state staff travel of Bob Decker, October 19-22, 2015, to attend the Organization of MISO States annual meeting in Little Rock, AR and Elizabeth Torske, September 28 through October 2, 2015, to conduct an Integrity Management Inspection of MDU in Bismarck, ND. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Nickie Eck, Transportation Unit

(228) In the matter of T-15.24.COC: Ryan Perrin dba BlackedOut 406's application for a certificate of compliance.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to APPROVE the certificate of compliance. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Nickie Eck, Transportation Unit

(229) In the matter of T-15.25.COC: Annette Wolf dba Wolf Transportation's application for a certificate of compliance.

Commissioner Lake moved to APPROVE the certificate of compliance. Commissioner

Koopman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Brenda Koch, Transportation Unit

(230) In the matter of T-15.26.COC: Big Sky Shuttle, Inc.'s application for a certificate of compliance.

Commissioner Koopman moved to APPROVE the certificate of compliance. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Brenda Koch, Transportation Unit

(231) In the matter of T-15.27.COC: JoJo Tobias LLC dba Red Lodge Tour & Taxi's application for a certificate of compliance.

Commissioner Bushman moved to APPROVE the certificate of compliance. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Kate Whitney, Administrator, Regulatory Division

(232) In the matter of N2015.8.65: Citizens Telecommunications request to introduce Frontier OneVoice Bundle Service effective September 20, 2015.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to APPROVE Citizens Telecommunications request. Commissioner Koopman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Neil Templeton, Regulatory Division
Jason Brown, Legal Division

(233) In the matter of D2014.6.53: Lost Revenue Adjustment Mechanism.

Commissioner Koopman moved to APPROVE eliminating all LRAM as soon as possible. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Neil Templeton and Dagan Lynch, Regulatory Division
Jeremiah Langston, Legal Division

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

Commissioner Kavulla moved to DIRECT staff to issue an order that with respect to LRAM,

reserves the subject for a decision in the order we just approved the issuance of in docket D2014.6.53, and otherwise permits the recovery of lost revenues for the subject tracker years which are in the past, subject to the SBW adjustments; that the Commission adopt a position consistent with its order in the 2012 docket concerning the electric tracker for the adjustment of historic lost revenues, and with respect to gas production assets, that the Commission establishes a revenue requirement proceeding to obtain cost information with the purpose of either establishing a multiyear revenue requirement processed through an annual tracker or traditional rate making regime, and that in the meantime, bridge rates be adjusted to be representative of the actual costs based on discovery responses in this docket. NorthWestern will have 12 months in which to file this information. Commissioner Koopman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Justin Kraske, Administrator, Legal Division
Jason Brown, Legal Division
Will Rosquist, Regulatory Division

(235) In the matter of D2015.8.63: Greycliff Wind Prime LLC's petition to amend or repeal ARM 38.5.1902(5).

Commissioner Lake moved to DIRECT staff to create an "N" docket to research and receive comments about the rules as they pertain to LEOs, competitive solicitations, large QF generation, length of contract and to clarify and develop consistent rules that align with actual practice to be followed by a rule making docket and DENY the petition. Commissioner Bushman seconded the motion, which failed 2 to 3. Commissioners Johnson, Kavulla, and Koopman dissenting.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to ACCEPT the Petition and notice the rulemaking to the competitive solicitation rule with all three options as outlined by staff and DIRECTED staff to schedule a work session to discuss the wider rulemaking in an "N" docket for QF rules not concerning the competitive solicitation rule. Commissioner Koopman seconded the motion, which passed 3 to 2. Commissioner Bushman and Lake dissenting.

APPEARANCE

Mike Dalton, Regulatory Division
Laura Farkas, Legal Division

(236) In the matter of N2014.7.67: CenturyLink's request for clarification or, in the alternative, petition for further waiver.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to GRANT the request for waiver. 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


KIRK BUSHMAN, Commissioner


ROGER KOOPMAN, Commissioner


BOB LAKE, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Aleisha Solem
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)