At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held using Zoom remotely from Helena, Montana, with no video recording for the meeting, on Tuesday, August 25, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., the following members were present via remote connections:

Bob Lake, Chairman  
Brad Johnson, Vice Chairman  
Roger Koopman, Commissioner  
Tony O’Donnell, Commissioner  
Randy Pinocci, Commissioner

SCHEDULING MATTERS
Chairman Lake asked if there were any additions or changes to PSC Calendar, as the Scheduling Meeting this morning to be held at 9:00 a.m. was cancelled due to technical difficulties. There were no changes to the PSC Calendar.

PUBLIC COMMENT
1. Montana Representative Mary Ann Dunwell, HD 84, Helena/East Helena: Regarding Docket No. 2019.12.101 NorthWestern Energy’s (“NorthWestern”) Expedited Motion to Lift Suspension of Procedural Order. She would like the Commission to deny NorthWestern’s Motion.

APPEARANCE
Vicki LaFond-Smith, Paralegal/Commission Secretary, Legal Division  
Justin Kraske, Chief Legal Counsel and Administrator, Legal Division

(146) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of August 17, 2020.

Commissioner O’Donnell asked to DEFER approval of the drafted Minutes for the week of August 17, 2020, to next week’s Business Meeting, and there was no opposition by Commissioners. Approval of the Minutes is deferred.

APPEARANCE
Zachary Rogala, Legal Division

(147) In the matter of 2019.12.101 – NorthWestern Energy – Application for Approval of Capacity Resource Acquisition (CU4) – To discuss and act on NorthWestern’s Expedited Motion to Lift Suspension of Procedural Order. The actual purpose of this Work Session is to establish, generally, a hearing date for this Application. NorthWestern asked for a hearing date around week of November 9, 2020; Staff recommends a hearing date around week of December 14th or mid-December and denying NorthWestern’s Motion; and the Intervenors want a hearing date around week of January 25, 2021.

Vice Chairman Johnson moved to ADOPT Staff’s recommendations to move forward with establishment of a mid-December hearing date on this Application and deny NorthWestern’s Motion. Chairman Lake seconded the motion.

Commissioner O’Donnell moved to amend the Motion of Vice Chairman Johnson to advance NorthWestern’s Motion for an earlier hearing date, clarified to include granting NorthWestern’s Motion and proposed Procedural Order. Commissioner Pinocci seconded the motion, which
failed with a vote of 2 to 3, with Chairman Lake, Vice Chairman Johnson, and Commissioner Koopman dissenting.

Vice Chairman Johnson’s Motion passed with a vote of 4 to 1, with Commissioner Koopman dissenting.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

BOB LAKE, Chairman

BRAD JOHNSON, Vice Chairman

ROGER KOOPMAN, Commissioner

TONY O’DONNELL, Commissioner

RANDALL PINOCCI, Commissioner

Vicki L. Rolf-Smith, Commission Secretary