

*Montana PSC – One Week Calendar of Scheduled Events
(This is not an official schedule of PSC activities)*

December 4 – December 8, 2023

**MONDAY
04**

11:00 AM – Commission Blue Book Committee Meeting (Commission Conference Room) (No web/audio feed)

1:30 PM – Commission Meeting – To interview candidates for the external affairs coordinator position, an exempt staff appointment. Closed to the Public. (Commission Conference Room)

Note: the presiding officer of any meeting may close the meeting during the time discussion relates to a matter of individual privacy and if the presiding officer determines the demands of individual privacy clearly exceed the merits of public disclosure. This meeting will involve a discussion regarding personnel matters and applicants for an appointed staff position. The information and discussion involved in this meeting is considered confidential under Mont. Admin. R. 2.21.3728.

As such, I have determined that the privacy interests of the individual(s) who will be the subject of this meeting outweigh the merits of public disclosure. Accordingly, as the presiding officer of this meeting, I am closing this meeting to the public.

President James Brown

**TUESDAY
05**

9:00 AM – WEEKLY SCHEDULING MEETING (Commission Conference Room) (No web/audio feed)

9:30 AM – BUSINESS MEETING (Bollinger Conference Room)

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Public Comment – Please follow the directions under ‘Public Involvement’ on the Agenda

Announcements

Action Items:

- 1. Approval of Commission Minutes for week of November 27, 2023.**

Work Sessions:

- 1. 2023.09.080 – Insight Energy LLC – Insight Energy LLC’s Natural Gas Broker Application – To address deficiencies that exist in Insight Energy LLC’s Application.**
- 2. 2023.03.024– Flathead Utility Company, Inc. (FLT) – FLT’s Operating Ratio Methodology (ORM) rate case – To consider FLT’s request to (1) increase the metered rates for the Country Estates and Hilltop Terrace water systems; and (2) establish a flat rate for the Ashley Trail water system.**
- 3. 2023.06.049 – Energy West Montana (EWM) – EWM’s Application for an Order Approving its Reconciliation of the Collections and Disbursements of its Universal System Benefits (USB) Accounts – To consider a draft final order on EWM’s Application to reconcile its USB accounts.**
- 4. 2022.07.073 – Colstrip Energy Limited Partnership (“CELP”) – CELP’s QF Petition – To consider both CELP and NorthWestern’s motions for reconsideration.**

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	<p>5. Commission Initiated – To provide the public with an update on commissioner travel and how the same benefited the agency – To have Commissioners who have traveled provide an update to the public on the purpose of commissioner’s travel in conformance with agency blue book policy and how the same benefited the agency.</p> <p>6. Blue Book Committee – Tranche 3 Policies – To consider adopting five policies included in Tranche 3: Personnel Schedule, Drugs and Alcohol, Performance Management, Communications, and Pay.</p>
WEDNESDAY 06	
THURSDAY 07	
FRIDAY 08	

***Next Commission Business Meeting Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at 9:30 a.m.**

MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

AGENDA NO. 2023-12.05

Date Published: December 01, 2023

For Week Commencing: December 04, 2023

Place of Meetings:

All meetings are held at the Public Service Commission Bollinger Conference Room, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.

Commission Meetings:

Commission Scheduling Meeting: December 05, 2023, 9:00 AM.

Commission Business Meeting: December 05, 2023, 9:30 AM.

Action Items

1. Approval of Commission Minutes (Patricia Trooien)

Approval of the Commission Minutes for the week of November 27, 2023

Work Sessions

1. 2023.09.080 – Insight Energy LLC – Insite Energy’s Natural Gas Broker Application – To address deficiencies that exist in Insight Energy LLC’s Application.
2. 2023.03.024– Flathead Utility Company, Inc. (FLT) – FLT’s Operating Ratio Methodology (ORM) rate case – To consider FLT’s request to (1) increase the metered rates for the Country Estates and Hilltop Terrace water systems; and (2) establish a flat rate for the Ashley Trail water system.
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4. 2022.07.073 – Colstrip Energy Limited Partnership (“CELP”) – CELP’s QF Petition – To consider both CELP and NorthWestern’s motions for reconsideration.
5. Commission Initiated – To provide the public with an update on commissioner travel and how the same benefited the agency – To have Commissioners who have traveled provide an update to the public on the purpose of commissioner’s travel in conformance with agency blue book policy and how the same benefited the agency.
6. Blue Book Committee – Tranche 3 Policies – To consider adopting five policies included in Tranche 3: Personnel Schedule, Drugs and Alcohol, Performance Management, Communications, and Pay.

Other Meetings

1. December 4, 2023, 11:00 AM – Commission Blue Book Committee Meeting: (Commission Conference Room, No web/audio feed)
2. December 4, 2023, 1:30 PM – Commission Meeting – To interview candidates for the external affairs coordinator position, an exempt staff appointment. Closed to the Public (Commission Conference Room)

Note: the presiding officer of any meeting may close the meeting during the time discussion relates to a matter of individual privacy and if the presiding officer determines the demands of individual privacy clearly exceed the merits of public disclosure. This meeting will involve a discussion regarding personnel matters and applicants for an appointed staff position. The information and discussion involved in this meeting is considered confidential under Mont. Admin. R. 2.21.3728.

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President James Brown

Notice Items: All items identified below are noticed for public involvement purposes. Public Comments on this Agenda’s items need to be submitted within 5 calendar days following publication of this Agenda, or as provided in the Notice. Please refer to the “Public Involvement” item in this Agenda for options and assistance.

None

Transportation Notice Items: Motor carriers with proper standing may protest Class A, D, and E applications. Protests related to an application for Class A and E passenger authority is limited to a protest of the motor carrier’s ability to meet the requirements of Mont. Code Ann. §§ 69–12–323(5) and 69–12–415. Protests must include the proper fee, as required by Mont. Admin. R. 38.3.402(c), and conform to the requirements at Mont. Admin. R. 38.3.405 or 38.3.406 as applicable. Protest forms are available on the Commission’s website under Regulated Utilities, Compliance Materials, Transportation. See <https://psc.mt.gov/docs/Transportation/pdf/Protest-to-Application-for-Certificate-of-Compliance.pdf> and <https://psc.mt.gov/docs/Transportation/pdf/COC-app-2015class-E.pdf>. If no written protests are received by the deadline, the Commission may issue a final decision on the Application (including a decision by delegation of authority to Commission staff pursuant to established internal operating procedures) without a public hearing, pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. § 69–12–321.

None

Protective Orders – Notice Items: The Commission has received the following requests for Protective Order(s) pursuant to Mont. Admin. R. 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 website <http://psc.mt.gov>.

None

Protective Orders – Informational Items: The Commission has issued the following Protective Order(s). These Order(s) may be challenged pursuant to Mont. Admin. R. 38.2.5008. Copies of the Order(s) may be viewed on the Commission’s website <http://psc.mt.gov>.

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (2021.09.116) (Laura Vachowski)

On October 11, 2023, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (“MDU”) filed a motion for a protective order seeking to protect from public disclosure certain information responsive to Montana Public Service Commission (“Commission”) Data Request PSC-003. That Data Request requested information about MDU’s contracts for the purchase of natural gas. MDU asserted its responsive information included information such as Contract Price, Performance Obligation and Contract Quantity, Special Conditions, Wire Transfer Information, Delivery Point, and Current Quantity and Price and that such information was protectable as a trade secret and/or was otherwise legally protected from public disclosure. On November 3, 2023, the Commission granted MDU’s motion and issued Protective Order 7911c.

Informational Items: All items identified below are for *information only*.

1. Lux Mobile USA, Inc. (Tina Shorten)

On November 22, 2023, the Public Service Commission processed a new telecommunications registration from Lux Mobile USA, Inc. (REG-28)

2. Cliq Communications LLC (Tina Shorten)

On November 24, 2023, the Public Service Commission processed a new telecommunications registration from Cliq Communications LLC (REG-29)

New Regulatory Dockets Received in Past Week:

None

General Information: This is the Commission's Agenda for the week designated above. The agenda is posted a week in advance on the public information bulletin board at the Commission’s office, is emailed to all persons who have requested notice by email and is posted on the Commission’s website <http://psc.mt.gov>.

Public Involvement: The Commission invites the public's involvement in its proceedings. Options are:

- (1) provide written comments at the Commission's website <http://psc.mt.gov>, select "Documents & Proceedings" Tab; select "Comment on a Proceeding," select "Continue as Guest," complete form, select "Submit".
- (2) join the "watch list" for a docket at the Commission's website <http://psc.mt.gov>. Go to <http://psc.mt.gov/REDDI-Help> for instructions on joining watch lists.
- (3) watch the meeting's "Live Webcast" from your computer at <http://psc.mt.gov/livestream>;
- (4) attend a Commission meeting in person and provide comments;
- (5) attend a Commission meeting via Zoom to provide public comment:
 - a. Please call the Commission's toll-free number at 1-800-646-6150 by 4:30 p.m. on the day before the scheduled Business Meeting.
 - b. You will need to provide your name; the docket number or a description of the docket on which you wish to provide comment; your phone number; and your email address.
 - c. You will be given an identifier, such as "Commenter 1, 2, etc." This identifier will be how you are recognized to provide public comment during the business meeting.
 - d. Public commenters will make comments only once near the beginning of the business meeting. Commenters are welcome to remain online to listen to the entire meeting.
 - e. You may also provide written comments as outlined in paragraph (1) under "Public Involvement." These comments are not made publicly available but are provided to the docket work team and Commissioners.
- (6) sign up on the Commission's "Email List" to receive Notices by email for the following categories: Rules, Motor Carrier, Energy West Applications, MCC & PSC Taxes, Montana-Dakota Utilities Applications, NorthWestern Energy Applications, PSC Orders, Telecommunications Applications, PSC Agendas, and PSC Hearings;
- (7) mail or deliver written comments to the Commission's office, 1701 Prospect Ave., P.O. Box 202601, Helena, MT 59620-2601;
- (8) contact your District's Commissioner; and
- (9) contact the Commission's Consumer Assistance staff at 1-800-646-6150 or email pschelp@mt.gov. They are happy to assist you!

Live Webcast: Visit <http://psc.mt.gov/livestream> to watch live stream of Commission meetings and hearings.

Inquiries: For general inquiries concerning this Agenda, contact Patricia Trooien at (406) 444-6199 or the Commission's Consumer Assistance Staff at 1-800-646-6150.

Accommodations for Individuals: Individuals needing accommodations to attend or participate at a Commission meeting or hearing may contact the Commission's Consumer Assistance Staff at 1-800-646-6150 or by email pschelp@mt.gov prior to the meeting or hearing. The Commission will make every effort to provide assistance.