

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Tuesday, September 17, 2002, the following members were present:

Gary Feland, Chairman  
Jay Stovall, Vice Chairman  
Bob Anderson, Commissioner  
Matt Brainard, Commissioner  
Bob Rowe, Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Steve Vick  
Utility Division

(398) In the matter of NorthWestern Energy, Docket No. D97.11.219; On September 9, 2002, MPC filed its seventh semi-annual true-up Advice Letter pursuant to Order No. 6035a. This filing is made by MPC in its role as servicer of the Natural Gas Transition Bonds. If the previous six-month period variance between the scheduled debt service and the actual amounts available to satisfy the scheduled debt service for such period exceeds 2 percent MPC is required to apply for adjustment to the Fixed Transition Amount (FTA) charges. The variance for the period was an overcollection of 21.03 percent or \$741,805. The variance was a result of higher actual collections versus the prior estimated collections. The new decreased FTA rates include the overcollection. There is a slight increase in the FTA-RA (Utility) rate. Staff recommends that the changes in the FTA charges be approved effective October 1, 2002. Commissioner Stovall moved to approve the changes in the fixed transition amount charges. Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator  
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(399) In the matter of T-02.82.RI; On August 9, 2002 the Montana Tariff Bureau, as agent for Montana intrastate household goods carriers, filed for a general rate increase on rates and charges in Household Goods Tariff No. 1 of 3% and an increase to Item 675 of that tariff (dealing with valuation charges), for participating carriers, from \$3.50 per pound to \$4.00 per pound. The rate increase was noticed to the public on August 14, 2002 and no protests have been received. The rate increase is scheduled to become effective on September 23, 2002. Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the rate increase. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(400) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes; Commissioner Stovall moved to approve the Commission Minutes for the week of September 9, 2002. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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

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GARY FELAND, Chairman

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JAY STOVALL, Vice Chairman

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BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

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MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

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BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Rhonda J. Simmons  
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

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APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson

(401) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Montana Eligible Telecommunications Carriers' Annual Certification, Docket No. N2002.7.96; Commissioner Rowe moved to certify all Montana ETCs for receipt of universal service funds. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Lisa Swanson, Robin McHugh

(402) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Mountain Water' s Application to Increase Rates, Docket No. D2002.5.60; Commissioner Rowe moved to grant protection pursuant to the up-to-90-days rule and notice the amended motion when received for comments on a 10 day response schedule. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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

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GARY FELAND, Chairman

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JAY STOVALL, Vice Chairman

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BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

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MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

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BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Rhonda J. Simmons  
Commission Secretary  
(SEAL)