

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
AGENDA NO. 16-12-22**

Date Published: December 14, 2016

For Work Week Commencing: December 19, 2016

Commission Scheduling Meeting: Thursday, December 22, 2016, 11:00 a.m.

Commission Business Meeting: Thursday, December 22, 2016, 11:15 a.m.

General Introduction: This agenda is the Commission's agenda for the work week designated. In the beginning part of each week prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, emailed to all persons who have properly requested notice by email, and posted to the Public Service Commission's worldwide website located at <http://psc.mt.gov>.

Place of Meetings: All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.

Live webcast: Visit <http://www.psc.mt.gov/video.asp> to watch live stream of Commission meetings.

Inquiries: General inquiries concerning this agenda and subscribing to electronic notice may be made to Sandy Scherer at (406) 444-6180. She may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities: Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission at (406) 444-6199 prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.

Action Items: All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.

1. Approval of Commission Minutes (Sandy)

Approval of the Commission Minutes for the week of December 12, 2016.

2. Telecommunications Interconnection Agreements (Mike)

The following interconnection agreements and amendments to existing interconnection agreements have been filed with the Commission for approval. Each has been voluntarily negotiated by the parties involved. These interconnection agreements have been properly noticed, and no

comments or objection have been received by the Commission. All parties to each of the interconnection agreements are registered telecommunications carriers in Montana. The interconnection agreements have been included with each filing and are publicly available on the Commission's website under its respective docket number.

D2015.6.48 – CenturyTel of Montana dba CenturyLink and Level 3 Communications

D2002.6.68 – Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink and Level 3 Communications

D2016.9.67 – CenturyTel dba CenturyLink and dishNET Wireline, LLC

D2016.10.84 – Triangle Communications Systems and Qwest dba CenturyLink

Probable Motion: Move to approve the interconnection agreements and amendments as filed.

3. Fox Hill Utilities, LLC D2016.11.92 (Scott)

On November 30, 2016, Fox Hill Utilities, LLC (Fox), submitted its application for initial rates under the Simplified Regulatory Treatment Options for small water and sewer companies. Fox elected to use the Standard Rate Tariff outlined in ARM 38.5.2528 for all users of its water and sewer system. Under the terms of the proposed standard rate tariff, Fox is proposing a flat rate charge of \$50.00 per month for water usage and a flat rate of \$30.00 per month for sewer usage. Fox is also proposing to adopt Standard Ancillary Charges for Small Water and Sewer Companies of \$25 for payment refused as a result of insufficient funding, \$50 reconnection charge, and 1% per month on interest on past due balances. Notification of this proposal was mailed by Fox to all users on November 22, 2016. Fox is requesting a January 1, 2017, effective date for this tariff. Probable Motion: Approve Fox's request to adopt the standard rate tariff outlined in ARM 38.5.2528.

Work Sessions: All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated.

1. D2016.12.93 – Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. – Application to Implement a Fuel and Purchased Power Cost Tracking Adjustment – Rate 35 – Discuss and act on Interim Order. (12/22/16)
2. D2015.3.27 – NorthWestern Energy – NorthWestern Energy's Consolidated Petition for a Waiver from Compliance with the Community Renewable

Energy Project Purchase Obligation for Calendar Year 2014 and for a Declaratory Ruling regarding the Administrative Penalty contained in Section 69-3-2004(10), MCA – Discuss and act on Declaratory Ruling. (12/22/16)

3. D2016.3.31 – Ronan Telephone Company – Ronan Telephone Company’s Petition for Declaratory Ruling in regard to RTC Montana Access Tariffs – Discuss and act on the Declaratory Ruling request. (12/22/16)
4. D2016.7.56 – Crazy Mountain Wind - IN THE MATTER OF the Petition of Crazy Mountain Wind for the Commission to set certain Terms and Conditions of Contract between NorthWestern Energy and Crazy Mountain Wind, LLC – Discuss and act on petition. (12/22/16)
5. Filling the vacant Communication Director position. (12/22/16)

Other Meetings

Notice Items: All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments, either by mail or hand delivery, to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda. Public comments on a noticed matter may also be submitted within the required time via the PSC's public comment email, psc_utilitycomment@mt.gov. A comment form may be downloaded at <http://psc.mt.gov/Consumers/comments>. Comments should reference the docket number of the matter.

1. Citizens Telecommunications d/b/a Frontier Communications
N2016.12.95 (Tina)

On December 1, 2016, Citizens Telecommunications Company of Montana d/b/a Frontier Communications of Montana filed Advice Letter No. MT-16-07 to correct typographical errors in the Stay Connected Seasonal Offering reconnect charges language. This administrative filing will not impact customer billing.

2. Citizens Telecommunications d/b/a Frontier Communications
N2016.12.99 (Tina)

On December 8, 2016, Citizens Telecommunications Company of Montana d/b/a Frontier Communications of Montana filed a request to withdraw and remove the Check Sheet Section, pages 1, 2, 3, and 4, from their Local Services Tariff. The check sheets duplicate information on the individual tariff sheets.

3. Lifeline Program Tariff Changes N2016.11.86 (Tina)

On November 10, 2016, the Public Service Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Staff Action requesting carriers with tariffs on file with the Commission submit a filing to remove descriptive wording in their tariff regarding Lifeline and replace it with a brief explanation that they provide Lifeline as authorized by the Federal Communications Commission. The following carriers have submitted tariffs in compliance with the November 10 notice:

Lincoln Telephone Company
Ronan Telephone Company

Transportation Notice Items: Motor carriers with proper standing may protest applications. Protests related to an application for Class A, B, 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. A protest form is available on the Commission's website at <http://psc.mt.gov/transportation>. 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.

Protective Orders – Notice Items: The Commission has received the following requests for protective order 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 web site at <http://psc.mt.gov>

Protective Orders – Information Items: The Commission has issued the following protective orders. These orders may be challenged pursuant to Mont. Admin. R. 38.2.5008. Copies of these orders may be viewed on the Commission’s web site at <http://psc.mt.gov>

Information Items: All items identified below are for information only.

New Regulatory Filings Received in Past Week

D2016.12.98 - NorthWestern Energy - IN THE MATTER OF NorthWestern Energy's Statement of Future Plans for Electricity Utility General Rate Case
N2016.12.99 – Citizens Telecommunications Company of Montana - Withdraw and remove the Check Sheet Section, page 1, 2, 3 and 4 from the Local Services Tariff

New Transportation Filings Received in Past Week

T-16.37.PCN - Triple T Moving Inc., Shepherd, Montana filed application for Class B - Household Goods between all points and places in Yellowstone County, Montana