

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 99-3-8**

Date Prepared: March 4, 1999
For Work Week Commencing: March 8, 1999
Business Meeting: March 8, 1999, 10:00 a.m.

General Introduction This agenda is the Commission's Utility Division agenda for the work week designated. In the later part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, deposited in the mail directed to all persons who have properly requested notice by mail, emailed to all persons who have properly requested notice by email, and posted to the Public Service Commission's worldwide web site located at <http://www.psc.state.mt.us>.

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

Inquiries General inquiries concerning this Utility Division agenda and subscribing to notice by mail may be made to Dennis Crawford at (406) 444-6182 or Dan Elliott at (406) 444-6187. They 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 secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.

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

1. Docket D98.9.213 – GFG tracker – Discuss moving hearing date, other matters as necessary (3/9/99)
2. Docket D99.2.29 – MDU USBC – USBC for Montana Dakota Utilities – Discussion of Motion for Reconsideration of Order No. 6143 which directed MDU to file a report by March 19, 1999 on its Universal System Benefits Programs to comply with Senate Bill 390 (3/9/99)
3. Docket D99.2.21 – Kern v USWC – Discuss complaint, answer, reply, other matters as needed (3/9/99)
4. Dockets D98.10.223 & D99.1.6 – Clark Fork Telecommunications Inc.'s and Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative's intraLATA dialing parity plans (3/9/99)
5. Blue Book Revisions – Discuss and get approval for revisions to Blue Book (3/9/99)

6. Ex parte communications – Further discussion of ex parte communications and developing safeguards and awareness (3/9/99)

Legislative Meeting – Will be held at 9:30 am on the day of the Business Meeting.

Weekly Scheduling Meeting – Will be held at 9:45 a.m. on the day of the Business Meeting

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

1. U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS – Docket N99.2.30 (Nina)

On February 10, 1999, U S West Communications filed Tariff Transmittal 99-10 "E-Mail and URL Listing Packages", to introduce a new Internet Listing Package option. This filing reduces the non-recurring rate for resident and business E-mail and URL directory listing. Also, customers who purchase both E-mail and a URL listing will receive a discount. This was a notice item on 3/1/99. Staff recommends approval.

2. SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS CO. – Docket N99.2.33 (Nina)

On February 12, 1999, Sprint Communications filed changes to its Montana PSC Price List No.1 as follows: To decrease Sprint Business Flex 500 Switched and Dedicated Rates; and to add text to change the Carrier Access Code from 10333 and 10XXX to 10-10-XXX. This was a notice item on 3/1/99. Staff Recommends approval.

3. SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS CO. – Docket N99.2.39 (Nina)

On February 18, 1999, Sprint Communications filed changes to its Montana PSC Price List No.1. This filing adds text to Section 3.3 Liability of the Carrier. This was a notice item on 3/1/99. Staff recommends approval.

4. CENTURYTEL – Docket N99.2.34 (Tina)

On February 12, 1999, CenturyTel filed Tariff Advice No. 99-1 to introduce a promotional offering in which the non-recurring charge will be waived when customers subscribe to additional residential or business lines at the same premise. The period of the promotion, if approved, will be March 15 through April 30. CenturyTel last offered this same promotion for the period October 1, 1998, through November 30, 1998.

5. AT&T – Docket N99.2.40 (Tina)

On February 18, 1999, AT&T filed Advice 99-01 to make changes to its Local Service Tariff. This filing removes 800 codes from the list of business lines a customer is responsible for obtaining on their own and introduces the Deal of the Century promotion. Both of these revisions are for the AT&T Digital Link Service.

6. US WEST COMMUNICATIONS – Docket N99.2.46 (Vicki)

On February 22, US West filed tariff pages to introduce the Additional Line Spring 1999 Promotion. The promotion offers residential customers a waiver of 50% of the installation charge for each additional line. The offer is limited to two additional lines per customer location. The promotional period is from March 29th through May 22, 1999.

7. SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY – Docket N99.2.31(Vicki)

On February 10, 1999, Sprint Communications filed tariff pages to introduce language and rates regarding the contributory and eligible usage regulations of Business Sense and language regarding the Sprint Business Flex product.

8. MONTANA POWER COMPANY DOCKET NO. D99.2.32 (Eric)

On February 11, 1999, MPC filed for authority to increase the amount of a financing lease previously authorized in Default Order No. 5997, with respect to the acquisition and installation of an automated meter reading system by \$4,000,000, from \$20,000,000 to \$24,000,000. A default order has been drafted.

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 the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments 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.

1. One Eighty Communications – Docket N99.3.50 (Tina)

On March 2, 1999, One Eighty Communications filed revised tariffs to reflect a name change to Avista Communications.

2. AT&T – Docket N99.2.48 (Tina)

On February 25, 1999, AT&T filed Advice 99-02 to make changes to its Local Service Tariff. This filing introduces AT&T Digital Link – Flat Rate Plan Promotion.

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

Tentative Action Items for Agenda 99-3-15

N99.2.48 AT&T – (Tina)

N99.3.50 One Eighty – (Tina)

New Filings Received in Past Week

N99.2.48 – AT&T – Tariff filing Digital Link – Flat Rate Plan Promo

D99.3.49 – PSC – PSC policy investigation – flexible pricing by LEC local exchange carriers

N99.3.50 – One Eighty Communications – Notice of name change to Avista

D99.3.51 – PSC – PSC pass through funding fees