

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 02-6-18**

Date Published: June 13, 2002
For Work Week Commencing: June 17, 2002
Business Meeting: June 18, 2002, 9:00 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 Steve Vick at (406) 444-6182. He 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.

1. D2001.10.144 – NWE Portfolio Docket – To consider draft final order. (6/18/02)
2. D97.7.90./ D2001.10.144 – NWE – Customer Choice Guidelines – To consider interim order. (6/18/02)
3. Great Falls Tribune vs. PSC – To discuss and get direction on whether to appeal the court decision. (6/18/02)
4. D2002.3.29 – Unauthorized charges on telephone bills (cramming complaints) – Directory Service, Inc./Network Communications Group/Integretel – Discussion and direction. (6/18/02)

5. D2001.7.98 – Clark Fork Telecommunications Access Tariffs – Discussion, action on discovery objections, changes to procedural schedule, other matters if necessary. (6/18/02)
6. NARUC's Survey on Line Sharing – Discuss responding to the remand and vacation of the FCC's line sharing order. (6/18/02)

Weekly Scheduling Meeting – Will be held at 8:45 a.m. on the day of the Business Meeting

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. Public comments on a noticed matter may also be submitted within the required time through the PSC's web-based comment form at <http://psc.state.mt.us/PublicComment/PublicComment.htm>. Comments should reference the docket number of the matter.

1. NorthWestern Energy DOCKET NO. D97.7.90 (Eric)

On June 10, 2002, NWE made its initial filing for approval of its annual Electric Qualifying Facilities Competitive Transition Charge (CTC-QF) pursuant to Order No. 5986w. In the first year the amount of QF costs to be recovered is \$14, 893,987. This amount will increase in each of the three subsequent year until the charge reaches the amount of \$25,566,513 where it will remain in the remaining years of the charge. There is a 27-year transition cost recovery period. This filing is based on an updated market since the time of the stipulation. At the end of each year there will be a true-up to deal with any over/under collection. Interest on the over/under collection will be applied at the rate of 8.46 percent.

2. NorthWestern Energy DOCKET NO. D2001.1.5 (Eric)

On June 10, 2002, NWE made a filing for approval of its Electric Sale Credit pursuant to Order 6353c. This is a one year credit of \$30,000,000.

plus estimated interest. At the end of one year there will be a true-up to deal with any over/under collection. This filing is based on an updated market since the time of the stipulation. At the end of one year rates will rise by the \$30,000,000 to reflect the elimination of the credit.

3. Clark Fork Telecommunication DOCKET NO. N2002.6.62 (Scott)

On June 7, 2002, Clark Fork Filed Lifeline Tier 1 compliance filing. Pursuant to the FCC Order 01-304, the FCC dictated certain access charge reform measures for rate-of-return companies. Among the reform measure adopted by the FCC was a series of increases to the single-line Subscriber Line Charge (SLC), including an increase from \$5.00 to \$6.00, effective July 1, 2002. The FCC also adopted an off-setting series of increases to Tier 1 Lifeline support element sufficient to fully off-set the increase in the SLC. Clark Fork is proposes to revise the tariff to reflect the changes to the Tier 1 Lifeline support.

New Filings Received in Past Week

- N2002.6.62 Clark Fork Telecommunications - Lifeline Tier 1 Compliance Filing
- D2002.6.63 NorthWestern Energy - Rate Schedule - QF-1
- D2002.6.64 NorthWestern Energy - Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)
Residential Exchange Credit
- D2002.6.65 Montana-Dakota Utilities - Gas Cost Tracking Adjustment Change