

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
UTILITY DIVISION  
AGENDA NO. 05-11-08**

Date Published: November 3, 2005  
For Work Week Commencing: November, 2005  
Commission Meeting: November 8, 2005, 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 Kate Whitney at (406) 444-3056. 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 secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.*

**9:00 a.m. Weekly Scheduling** (Commission Conference Room)

**9:30 a.m. Business** (Bollinger Room)

**Public Comments**

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

1. NorthWestern Corporation (NOR) D2005.10.161 (Eric)

On October 24, 2005, NorthWestern Corp filed an application seeking authority to refinance and to borrow the proceeds from the sale of not to exceed \$170,205,000 of Pollution Control Revenue bonds series 2005 and to provide for the payment thereof, to issue a like principal amount of first mortgage bonds. This refinancing will produce estimated annual interest savings of at least \$1,700,000. The proceeds will be used to redeem two series of Pollution Control Revenue Bonds issued in 1993. A default order has been drafted. Probable Motion: Move to issue the default order.

2. Citizens Telecommunications N2005.10.158 (Scott)

On October 18, 2005, Citizens filed Advice Letter No. MT-05-06. The purpose of this filing is to incorporate the national abbreviated 811 dialing designation code. The 811 dialing code is to be used by the state's One Call notification system for providing advance notice of excavation activities to the owners and operators of underground facilities. Probable motion: Approve Advice Letter No. MT-05-06 in Docket No. N2005.10.158.

3. Qwest Communications N2005.10.159 (Scott)

On October 20, 2005, Qwest filed Tariff Transmittal 05-AC03 Interexchange Carrier Subscription service. Qwest is proposing to restructure the Interexchange Carrier Subscription Service to introduce separate Primary Interexchange Carrier (PIC) change charges for changes that are processed electronically and manually. In addition, Qwest will be proposing separate charges for manually and electronically processed changes in situations where a customer request an interstate PIC change simultaneously with an intraLATA PIC change. In addition Qwest is petitioning the Commission for a limited temporary waiver of Commission rule ARM 38.5.4111(2). ARM 38.5.4111 addresses the charge a telecommunications carrier may assess a customer when the customer initially selects or changes its intraLATA carrier and/or its interLATA carrier. A waiver will enable Qwest to both comply with the new federal requirements regarding interLata Primary Interexchange Carrier (PIC) change charges and recover its costs incurred when a customer makes a simultaneous PIC change. Qwest is requesting a December 31, 2005, effective date. Probable motion: Approve Qwest request for waiver of ARM 38.5.4111(2) and Tariff Transmittal 05-AC03 in Docket N2005.10.159.

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

1. Approve notice of hearing on annual pipeline safety rules update. (11/8/05)
2. Annual BTU monitoring contract – Approve contract. (11/8/05)
3. Waiver of ARM 38.5.4111(2) for all regulated local exchange carriers – Discuss and act on waiver of rule regarding PIC change charges. (11/8/05)
4. Staff travel/personnel/budget – Discuss/act on out-of-state staff travel requests, rate analyst broadbanding & compensation matters, and other agency budget matters if needed. (11/8/05)

**Other Meetings****11/7/2005 – D2003.12.170 – Western MT EAS hearings in Pablo, Hot Springs, Polson, and Ronan****11/9/2005 –9:00 a.m. – N2005.6.101 – North Western Energy Gas Procurement Plan hearing (Bollinger Room)**

Weekly Scheduling – Will be held at 9:00 a.m. on the day of the Commission 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.mt.gov/Consumers/comments>. Comments should reference the docket number of the matter.

1. Lincoln Telephone Company N2005.10.162 (Tina)

On October 24, 2005, Lincoln Telephone Company filed revisions to its Lifeline/Linkup tariff. The revisions were made to update and clarify this section of the tariff.

**Protective Orders – Notice Items** The Commission has received the following requests for protective order pursuant to ARM 38.2.5007. The Commission will rule on the requests no earlier than 10 days after the publication date of this agenda. Comments on the requests may be submitted at any time prior to ruling. Any person wanting a copy of a protective order request should contact the Commission at (406) 444-6199.

**Protective Orders – Information Items** The Commission has issued the following protective orders. These orders may be challenged pursuant to ARM 38.2.5008. Copies of these orders may be obtained by calling the Commission at (406) 444-6199

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

**New Filings Received in Past Week**

N2005.10.162 – Lincoln Telephone Co – Lifeline/Linkup

D2005.11.163 – Utility Solutions – Application to Implement Initial Rates for Water Service in its Gallatin County, Montana Service Area

D2005.11.164 – Utility Solutions – Application to Implement Initial Rates for Wastewater Service in its Gallatin County, Montana Service Area

D2005.11.165 – NorthWestern Energy – Exclusive Territory Agreement between Vigilante Electric Cooperative Inc. (VEC) and NorthWestern Energy (NWE)