

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 08-08-26**

Date Published: August 21, 2008
For Work Week Commencing: August 25, 2008
Commission Meeting: August 26, 2008, 9:00 a.m.

General Introduction *This agenda is the Commission's Utility Division agenda for the work week designated. In the latter 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.mt.gov>.*

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

Live webcast *Unless otherwise noted on this agenda, all Commission meetings held during regular business hours that are noticed on this agenda will be webcast live via the audio and video feed links on the PSC website (<http://psc.mt.gov/eDocs/#Calendars>). The audio feeds of meetings are also archived at the same website location.*

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 – No Web Audio Feed)

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

Public Comments

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

1. MDU Resources Group, Inc. D2008.8.93 (Eric)

On August 8, 2008, MDU applied for authority to issue short-term debt securities in the aggregate principal amount of up to \$330,000,000 in the form of one or more promissory notes to finance, on an interim basis, the acquisition of Intermountain Gas Company. When short-term borrowings exceed 5 percent of a utility's other outstanding securities, Commission approval is required. **Probable Motion:** Approve MDU's request to issue short-term debt up to \$330,000,000 to finance on an interim basis the acquisition of Intermountain Gas Company.

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

1. D2008.5.56 – Ronan Telephone Company and Alltel Communications LLC dba Alltel – Application for Approval of Interconnection and Reciprocal Compensation Agreement – Discuss and act on the agreement. (8/26/08)
2. D2004.4.61 – Phantom Hills Water Company – Application to Establish Initial Rates and Charges for Water Service – Act on proposed rates. (8/26/08)
3. D2008.4.36 – PSC Initiated Investigation of NorthWestern Corporation's Compliance with Order 6505e - Consider and act on Montana Consumer Counsel's Motion for an Order Compelling Production and for Related Relief. (8/26/08)
4. D2008.6.71 – Cenex Pipeline, LLC – Application to Increase Rates and Charges - Discuss and act on Cenex's request. (8/26/08)
5. D2008.6.72 – Front Range Pipeline, LLC – Application to Increase Rates and Charges – Discuss and act on Front Line's request. (8/26/08)
6. Discuss average number of days in energy utility customers' billing periods and the effect of higher rates on customers' ability to pay bills that are for longer than average periods. (8/26/08)

7. D2003.1.14 – Alltel fka Western Wireless – Eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) status and compliance – Discuss any and all necessary matters related to Alltel's designation as an ETC in Montana and its obligations to continue its designation, including but not limited to opening a new docket to determine Alltel's compliance. (8/26/08)

Other Meetings

Weekly Scheduling, Review of Monthly Calendars, and Docket Status Updates (if requested by a Commissioner).

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.

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

D2008.8.98 – Energy West Montana – Monthly Gas Cost Tracking Application for September 1, 2008

D2008.8.99 – Qwest Corporation and Cleartech.com, Inc. – Application for Approval of Wireline Interconnection Agreement