

# Montana Public Service Commission



Brad Johnson - Chairman  
Travis Kavulla - Vice Chairman  
Kirk Bushman - Commissioner  
Roger Koopman - Commissioner  
Bob Lake - Commissioner

November 18, 2016

Jenny K. Harbine  
Earthjustice  
313 East Main Street  
Bozeman, MT 59715

RE: Data Requests in Docket D2016.5.39

Dear Ms. Harbine:

Enclosed please find Data Requests PSC-049 and PSC-050 of the Montana Public Service Commission to Vote Solar and the Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC) in the above-referenced Docket. Please provide a response by December 2, 2016. If you have any questions, please contact me at (406) 444-6191.

Sincerely,

Neil Templeton  
Regulatory Division  
Montana Public Service Commission

Enclosure

Service Date: November 18, 2016

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

IN THE MATTER OF NorthWestern )  
Energy's Application for Interim and Final ) REGULATORY DIVISION  
Approval of Revised Tariff No. QF-1, ) DOCKET NO. D2016.5.39  
Qualifying Facility Power Purchase )

**DATA REQUESTS PSC-049 THROUGH PSC-050 OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC  
SERVICE COMMISSION TO VOTE SOLAR AND THE MONTANA  
ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION CENTER**

PSC-049

Regarding: Contract Term  
Witness: Beach

- a. Is it your opinion that the Commission may only make a determination to change those aspects of the QF contract which NorthWestern asks to be updated or changed in its QF-1 application?
- b. Please specify what you mean by "substantial portion" at 3:5 of your additional issues testimony.
- c. What portion of the "available long term contracts" referenced on 5:6-7 of your additional issues testimony included fixed rates for energy and capacity?

PSC-050

Regarding: Idaho QF Contracts  
Witness: Beach

At 8:19-27 you state that Idaho QFs must renew their contracts every two years, but capacity payments are based upon the resource deficiency year in place at first contract.

- a. Please explain how these capacity payments are calculated in Idaho.
- b. Please explain how all other QF payments are updated every two years.
- c. Please describe the biennial contract renewal process.