

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on January 15, 2002, the following members were present:

- Gary Feland, Chairman
- Jay Stovall, Vice Chairman
- Bob Anderson, Commissioner
- Matt Brainard, Commissioner
- Bob Rowe, Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Steve Vick
Utility Division

(22) In the matter of Cut Bank Gas Company, Docket No. D2001.12.176; On December 28, 2001, Cut Bank Gas Company filed an application to pass through the Montana Power Company natural gas rate decrease. On an interim basis Cut Bank Gas requests to reduce its MCF from \$5.940329 per MCF to \$4.871329 per MCF or a \$1.069 per MCF reduction. This reduction would be effective for services rendered on and after January 1, 2002, and remain in effect until a final decision is made on MPC' s rate decrease in Docket No. D2001.12.156 and Docket No. D96.2.22. Commissioner Brainard moved to approve the rate decrease. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(23) In the matter of T-01.38.ST; On November 1, 2001 James M. Sherman dba Sherman' s Sanitation Service, Sunburst, Montana filed an application for transfer of Montana Intrastate Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, PSC No. 8989 to Underdahl Farms, Inc. dba U.F.I. Sanitation Service, Conrad, Montana. The application was noticed to the public on December 7, 2001 and no protests were received.

Class D - Solid waste and garbage between all points and places in Toole County, Montana.

Commissioner Feland moved to approve the transfer. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(24) In the matter of TN2124; Dick Irvin, Inc., Shelby, Montana requests permission to continue the lease of PSC No. 9392 to Irvin, Inc. & Mico, Inc. dba I & T Transfer, Shelby, Montana for a twelve (12) month period, January 6, 2002 to January 6, 2003.

SUB F Class B - Property within the town of Fairfield, Montana, and to or from points tributary thereto, but within a distance not exceeding fifty (50) miles in any direction from said town, and the transportation of building materials only within a distance not exceeding 150 miles in any direction from said town of Fairfield. Limitation: Transportation of ashes, trash, waste, refuse, rubbish and garbage is prohibited.

- SUB L Class B - Property in Oilmont, Montana, and in the oil fields tributary thereto, but within a distance not exceeding fifty (50) miles in any direction from said town. Limitations: The transportation of property between points served by rail carriers, or between points served by a motor carrier operating between fixed termini or over a regular route, is prohibited. Transportation of ashes, trash, waste, refuse, rubbish and garbage is prohibited.
- SUB M Class B - Property within the City of Conrad, Montana, and to or from points tributary thereto, but within a distance not exceeding fifty (50) miles in any direction from said town. Limitations: The transportation of property between points served by rail carriers, or between points served by a motor carrier operating between fixed termini, or over a regular route, is prohibited. Transportation of ashes, trash, waste, refuse, rubbish and garbage is prohibited.

Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the continuation of the lease. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(25) In the matter of TN2125; Karst Stage, Inc., Bozeman, Montana requests cancellation and termination of the Class A (scheduled service) authority held by them under PSC No. 3596, Subs E, F, H, J, M, O and Q.

- SUB E Class A - Persons, baggage, and express between Bozeman, Gallatin Field and Four Corners (the intersection of U.S. Highway 191 and State Highway No. 84) via U.S. Highway 10 and State Highway 85. Limitations: Closed door operations between Bozeman, Montana and Gallatin Field via U.S. Highway 10 and Interstate 90.
- SUB F Class A - Persons (mail, baggage and express in the same vehicle with persons) between Livingston and Gardiner, Montana, over U.S. Highway 89.
- SUB H Class A - Persons, baggage and express, between Bozeman, Montana and all points and places located on Highway 191 between Bozeman, Montana and the Wyoming State line, between West Yellowstone, Montana and the Wyoming State line.
- SUB J Class A - Persons (mail, baggage and express in the same vehicle with persons) between Red Lodge and Silver Gate, Montana, over U.S. Highway 12 during Yellowstone Park Season only.
- SUB M Class A - Persons and baggage between Bozeman, Gallatin Gateway and Yellowstone Park. Limitations: Transportation to or from points intermediate to Bozeman, Gallatin Gateway and Yellowstone National Park, is not authorized by this certificate.
- SUB O Class A - Persons, within the City of Butte, Montana, and to or from points tributary thereto, but within a distance not exceeding five (5) miles in any direction from said city.
- SUB Q Class A - Persons, within the City of Bozeman, Montana.

Commissioner Brainard moved to approve the cancellation. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(26) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes; Commissioner Stovall moved to approve the Commission Minutes for the week of January 7, 2002. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

GARY FELAND, Chairman

JAY STOVALL, Vice Chairman

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Rhonda J. Simmons
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Monday, January 14, 2002, the following members were present:

- Gary Feland, Chairman
- Bob Anderson, Commissioner
- Matt Brainard, Commissioner
- Bob Rowe, Commissioner

Commissioner Stovall was absent and did not leave a vote on this issue.

APPEARANCE

Monica Tranel, Robin McHugh

(27) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative' s Petition for Arbitration of Interconnection Agreement, Docket No. D2002.1.3; Commissioner Anderson moved to appoint the Commission as arbitrator and Monica Tranel as hearings examiner for procedural matters in this docket in accordance with ARM 38.5.4016 - .4018. Commissioner Feland seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 4-0. Commissioners Anderson, Brainard, Feland and Rowe voted aye.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

GARY FELAND, Chairman

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Rhonda J. Simmons
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Tuesday, January 15, 2002, the following members were present:

Gary Feland, Chairman
Jay Stovall, Vice Chairman
Bob Anderson, Commissioner
Matt Brainard, Commissioner
Bob Rowe, Commissioner

APPEARANCE
Robin McHugh

(28) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Montana Power Company' s Tier II Filing, Sale to Northwestern Corporation, and Default Supply Portfolio, Docket Nos. D97.7.90, D2001.1.5 and D2001.10.144, respectively; Commissioner Rowe moved to deny without prejudice the request of Colstrip Energy Limited Partnership and Yellowstone Energy Limited Partnership to continue the hearing. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Robin McHugh

(29) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Montana Power Company' s Tier II Filing and Sale to Northwestern Corporation, Docket Nos. D97.7.90 and D2001.1.5, respectively; Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the pro hac vice application of Lee Roberts in Docket No. D2001.1.5, and consider him previously admitted in Docket No. D97.7.90. Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Bob Anderson

(30) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Membership in the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) (no docket number); Commissioner Anderson moved to accept the automatic option of membership in WECC and designate himself (Bob Anderson) as representative. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Robin McHugh, Bob Anderson

(31) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of out-of-state travel (no docket number); Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the out-of-state travel for Lisa Swanson to the New Mexico State electric industry workshop. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Anderson moved to approve out-of-state travel for Susan Good to the NARUC winter meetings in Washington, D.C. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

GARY FELAND, Chairman

JAY STOVALL, Vice Chairman

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Rhonda J. Simmons
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Old Supreme Court Chambers, Room 303, Montana Capitol Building in Helena, Montana, on Wednesday, January 16, 2002, the following members were present:

- Gary Feland, Chairman
- Jay Stovall, Vice Chairman
- Bob Anderson, Commissioner
- Matt Brainard, Commissioner
- Bob Rowe, Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh

(32) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Montana Power Company' s Tier II Filing and Sale to Northwestern Corporation, Docket Nos. D97.7.90 and D2001.1.5, respectively; Commissioner Rowe moved to request one round of (posthearing) briefs due by January 24, 2002. Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

GARY FELAND, Chairman

JAY STOVALL, Vice Chairman

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Rhonda J. Simmons
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)