

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, the following members were present:

Greg Jergeson, Chair
Ken Toole, Vice Chair
Gail Gutsche, Commissioner
Brad Molnar, Commissioner
John Vincent, Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Scott Fabel, Utility Division

(406) In the matter of N2009.10.135: On October 16, 2009, Century Tel Filed Advice No. 09-36A.

Commissioner Toole moved to APPROVE Century Tel's request in Advice No. 09-36A in Docket N2009.10.135. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(407) In the matter of N2009.10.136: On October 16, 2009, Century Tel Filed Advice No. 09-05.

Commissioner Toole moved to APPROVE Century Tel's request in Advice No. 09-05 in Docket N2009.10.136. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(408) In the matter of N2009.8.113: On August 25, 2009, Southern Montana Telephone Company pursuant to §69-3-901 MCA gave Notice of proposed Increase in Local Rates, Southern Montana Telephone Company proposes to increase its local residential service rates from \$11.50 per month to \$13.75 per month.

Commissioner Vincent moved to APPROVE Southern Montana Telephone Company's Increase in Docket N2009.8.113. Commissioner Toole seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(409) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the weeks of October 20, 2009 and October 27, 2009.

Commissioner Toole moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the weeks of October 20, 2009 and October 27, 2009. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh, Administrator, Legal Division

(410) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2005.11.163 & D2005.11.164: Utility Solutions application for permanent water and sewer rates, motion for protective order for federal and state income tax returns.

Commissioner Vincent moved to GRANT the protective order and issue the order in Docket Nos. D2005.11.163 and D2005.11.164. Commissioner Toole seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Justin Kraske, Legal Division

(411) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2009.9.129: NorthWestern Energy application for authority to establish increased natural gas and electric delivery service rates and implement allocated cost of service and rate design proposals. Motion for protective order covering forecast financial data concerning NorthWestern Energy's expenses for 2013 and 2014.

Commissioner Toole moved to GRANT NorthWestern's motion for a protective order and issue the order in Docket No. D2009.9.129. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioner Vincent voted no.

APPEARANCE

Mike Lee, Utility Division

(412) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Draft 6th Power Plan. Discuss and act on the draft of Commission comments.

MOTION 1: Commissioner Gutsche moved to ADD the amendment of Commissioner Gutsche. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioner Molnar voted no.

MOTION 2: Commissioner Vincent moved to INSERT the language in the paragraph beginning with "Third" on page four recommended by staff, PSC endorsement of the expansion of this cooperative effort. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-1. Commissioner Molnar voted no.

MOTION 3: Commissioner Toole moved to ADOPT the comments and submit them to the Northwest Power & Conservation Council as amended. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioner Molnar voted no.

APPEARANCE
Brian DeKiep, Utility Division

(413) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of MISO States comments to FERC.

Commissioner Jergeson moved to have Montana join OMS in these comments of FERC on the ARC matter. Commissioner Toole seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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

GREG JERGESON, Chair

KEN TOOLE, Vice Chair

GAIL GUTSCHE, Commissioner

BRAD MOLNAR, Commissioner

JOHN VINCENT, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Verna Stewart
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)