

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Thursday, July 8, 2010, the following members were present:

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

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator
Regulatory Division

(207) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of June 28, 2010.

Commissioner Toole moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of June 28, 2010. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Justin Kraske, Legal Division
Kim Moran, Regulatory Division

(208) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2009.6.90: Energy West Montana's application for approval of universal system benefit charge and programs.

Commissioner Jergeson moved to ISSUE Order No. 7063a subject to minor modifications, and approving the universal system benefit proposal from Energy West Montana in Docket No. D2009.6.90. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioner Molnar voted no.

APPEARANCE

Al Brogan, Administrator, Legal Division
Will Rosquist, Regulatory Division

(209) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2010.6.58: NorthWestern Energy, BPA residential exchange credit tariff filing.

Commissioner Molnar moved to APPROVE the draft final order subject to any minor editing in Docket No. D2010.6.58. Commissioner Toole seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Gary Duncan, Regulatory Division

(210) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of FCC USF Reform NOI and NPRM Comments.

Commissioner Toole moved to HOLD an informational roundtable on USF reform inviting all interested parties to participate on the afternoon of July 27, 2010. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Al Brogan, Administrator, Legal Division

(211) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2010.6.62: NorthWestern Energy's application for approval of 2010 avoided cost compliance filing schedule QFLT-1.

Commissioner Vincent moved to GRANT NorthWestern Energy's motion for a sixty day extension of time to file its 2010 QFLT filing in Docket No. D2010.6.62. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Al Brogan, Administrator, Legal Division
Scott Fabel and Leroy Beeby, Regulatory Division

(212) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2009.9.129: NorthWestern Energy's application for authority to establish increased natural gas and electric delivery service rates and implement allocated cost of service and rate design proposals.

MOTION 1: Commissioner Jergeson moved to APPROVE NorthWestern Energy's motion for an interim rate increase and issue the order as drafted in Docket No. D2009.9.129. Commissioner Toole seconded the motion, which passed 3-2. Commissioner Vincent and Commissioner Molnar voted no.

ALTERNATE MOTION: Commissioner Molnar moved to ACCEPT the interim order based strictly on paragraphs 11-19. Motion died for lack of second.

APPEARANCE

Will Rosquist, Regulatory Division
Al Brogan, Administrator, Legal Division

(213) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2009.9.129: NorthWestern Energy application to increase electric and natural gas rates.

Commissioner Toole moved to DENY NorthWestern Energy's motion for reconsideration on PSC's notice of additional issues in Docket No. D2009.9.129. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator,
Regulatory Division

Wayne Budt, Administrator
Centralized Services Division
Eric Dahlgren, Regulatory Division
Robin McHugh, Executive Director

(214) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Personnel reclassification request to the Department of Administration for the license examiner specialist position.

Commissioner Jergeson moved to SUBMIT the request to the Department of Administration to reclassify the license examiner specialist position in accordance to the documents prepared by Eric and Staci. 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)