

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Tuesday, July 27, 2010, the following members were present:

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

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator
Regulatory Division

(234) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of July 19, 2010.

Commissioner Toole moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of July 19, 2010. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Scott Fabel, Regulatory Division

(235) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. N2010.7.76: On July 9, 2010, Qwest Communications Company filed Tariff Transmittal QCC 10-04.

Commissioner Toole moved to APPROVE Qwest Communications Company Tariff Transmittal QCC 10-04 in Docket No. N2010.7.76. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Eric Eck, Regulatory Division

(236) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2010.6.65: On June 16, 2010, Black Hills Power filed a Quarterly Fuel Rate Rider application.

Commissioner Molnar moved to GRANT Black Hills Power's Quarterly Fuel Rate Rider application. Commissioner Toole seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Al Brogan, Administrator, Legal Division

(237) 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 proposal. Motion to establish new hearing date.

Commissioner Toole moved to GRANT NorthWestern Energy's request to reschedule the hearing date to Monday, September 20, 2010, and reschedule subsequent days in Docket No. D2009.9.129. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Leroy Beeby, Regulatory Division
Justin Kraske, Legal Division

(238) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2008.10.123: HLH, LLC., General Rate Case.

Commissioner Toole moved to REJECT the stipulation, adjust the interim rate to \$310,000, and allow HLH the choice of test year in Docket No. D2008.10.123. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioner Molnar voted no.

APPEARANCE

Brian DeKiep, Regulatory Division
Jason Brown, Legal Division

(239) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. N2010.1.4: Renewable Standard Compliance Filing for Compliance Year 2009, and Conoco Phillip's status as a competitive electricity supplier.

MOTION 1: Commissioner Toole moved to FIND that Conoco Phillips is a competitive electricity supplier in Docket No. N2010.1.4. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

MOTION 2: Commissioner Toole moved to ISSUE an order defining Conoco Phillips as a competitive electricity supplier and direct Conoco Phillips to file information on their corporate structure and level of retail sales in Docket No. N2010.1.4. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator
Regulatory Division

(240) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of out of state staff travel.

Commissioner Toole moved to APPROVE travel for Joel Tierney to attend PHMSA training, the Pipe Welding Inspection Course, on August 24-26, 2010, in Oklahoma City, OK. Commissioner Molnar 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)