

WYOMING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Minutes of Regular Open Meeting
Thursday, January 4, 2018
1:30 p.m.

Commissioners: Chairman William F. Russell
Deputy Chair Kara Brighton Fornstrom
Commissioner Robin Sessions Cooley

Bruce Asay, Associated Legal Group, LLC, Counsel for Montana-Dakota
Utilities Co. (MDU)
Tamie Aberle, Director of Regulatory Affairs, MDU (by telephone)
Mike Shoepf, Operations Director, MDU (by telephone)
Karen Collins, MDU (by telephone)
Michael Orton, Director Energy Efficiency, Questar Gas Company d/b/a
Dominion Energy (Dominion) (by telephone)

Commission Staff (CS): Steve Mink, James Branscomb, Kara Seveland,
Dave Piroutek and John Burbridge

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Docket No. 20000-528-EC-17 (Record No. 14898). Complaint of Dinosolar, LLC against Rocky Mountain Power (RMP). Commission to consider and act on Dinosolar, LLC and RMP's Joint Motion to extend the deadline for RMP to respond to complaint filing and consider issuance of a *Special Order Authorizing One Commissioner and/or Presiding Officer to Conduct Public Hearing*.**
2. **Docket No. 20000-520-EA-17 (Record No. 14781). Application of Rocky Mountain Power for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and nontraditional ratemaking for wind and transmission facilities. Commission to consider and act on *Motion for Admission Pro Hac Vice of Bret A. Sumner* filed on December 19, 2017 (*Motion*).**
3. **Docket 30010-164-GS-17 (Record No. 14718). Application of Questar Gas Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Wyoming for authority to issue securities. Commission to consider and act on *Petition for Confidential Treatment of Terms and Conditions of Security Issuance* filed on December 21, 2017 (*Petition*).**

Chairman Russell introduced the consent items. For Item #1, Steve Mink, Commission Counsel, recommended granting the Joint Motion and issuing a *Special Order*, by *Order* only, effective immediately. For Item #2, he recommended granting the *Motion* and for Item #3, granting the *Petition*, by *Order* only, effective immediately. Deputy Chair Fornstrom moved to act as recommended. Commissioner Cooley seconded the motion and Chairman Russell concurred.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. **Docket No. 30013-328-GA-17 (Record No. 14730). Filing of Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for approval of a partial waiver of 49 CFR Part 192.481(a). Commission to consider and act on filing.** Kara Seveland and Dave Piroutek, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated December 1, 2017. Bruce Asay, MDU's Counsel, provided background on the application noting a partial waiver for inspection once every four years was previously approved by the Commission. MDU requests the Commission extend the waiver and make it permanent. Asay also stated MDU would like to align the related inspections with required leak inspections. Dave Piroutek, CS, commented that when the waiver was initially granted, Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration (PHMSA) requested it be a five-year waiver. Current guidance received from PHMSA is 10 years for waivers on maintenance and operations issues. Steve Mink, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the application, except to limit the waiver to 10 years as outlined by PHMSA, by *Order* only, effective immediately. Deputy Chair Fornstrom moved to act as recommended. Commissioner Cooley seconded the motion and Chairman Russell concurred.

2. **Docket No. 30010-172-GA-17 (Record No. 14869). Application of Questar Gas Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Wyoming for approval of the 2018-year budget for Energy Efficiency Programs. Commission to consider and act on Application.** Kara Seveland, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated December 29, 2017. Michael Orton, Dominion's Director of Energy Efficiency, provided details about the application, the Company's budget and the proposed changes. He noted there is a 40% increase in the budget from 2017, which is related to incentives to be paid to customers participating in its Thermwise program. Orton said the energy savings will be substantial. He said participation is low in terms of customers, but involves large equipment (high efficiency boilers and infrared heaters) therefore, the savings is a bigger percentage. Orton confirmed this change will not impact rates. There were no further questions or comments. John Burbridge, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the application for use on and after January 1, 2018, by *Order* only. Deputy Chair Fornstrom moved to act as recommended. Commissioner Cooley seconded the motion and Chairman Russell concurred.

Prepared by: Barbara Tomlinson

Date of Next Open Meeting: Thursday, January 11, 2018

ACCEPTED and APPROVED by the Commission on January 11, 2018.

Chairman William F. Russell

WYOMING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Minutes of Regular Open Meeting
Tuesday, January 16, 2018
1:30 p.m.

Commissioners: Chairman William F. Russell
Deputy Chair Kara Brighton Fornstrom

Emanuel Cocian, Counsel, Holland and Hart, LLP, Counsel for
Renewable Energy Coalition (by telephone)
Yvonne Hogle, Assistant General Counsel, Rocky Mountain Power (by
telephone)

Commission Staff (CS): Lori Brand, John Burbridge, Michelle Bohanan,
Pam Temte, Steve Mink, James Branscomb, Nathan Brennan

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Docket No. 80011-5-WR-17 (Record No. 14670). Amended Application of Orchard Valley Water Co. for authority to increase its bimonthly minimum charge from \$25.00 to \$50.00, increase its fee for use in excess of 4000 gallons per two month period from \$1.25 to 2.00 per 1000 gallons and to implement time-limited rate riders of \$10.88 and \$9.35. Commission to consider and act on Orchard Valley's *Petition for Confidential Treatment and Protective Order (Petition)* filed December 12, 2017.**
2. **Docket No. 10000-23-CK-17 (Record No. 14685). Contract filing of Fall River Rural Electric Coop, Inc. with Pacific Northwest Generating Cooperative. Commission to consider acceptance of contract for filing.** Michelle Bohanan and Pam Temte, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated January 10, 2018.

Chairman Russell introduced the consent items. For Item #1, Lori Brand, Commission Counsel, recommended granting the *Petition* and denying the *Protective Order* as unnecessary. For Item #2, she recommended accepting the contract for filing, both items by *Order* only, effective immediately. Deputy Chair Fornstrom moved to act as recommended and Chairman Russell seconded the motion.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. **Docket No. 20000-518-EA-17 (Record No. 14736). Application of Rocky Mountain Power (RMP) for approval of Schedule 37, Standard Rates for Purchases of Power from Qualifying Facilities. Commission to consider and act on *Renewable Energy Coalition's Unopposed Motion for Leave to Attend Hearing via Telephone (Motion)* filed on January 9, 2018.** Emanuel Cocian, Counsel for Renewable Energy Coalition (REC), presented the unopposed *Motion*. He explained its expert witness, John Lowe, resides in Oregon a substantial distance from an airport and stated it would be a hardship for Lowe to travel to Cheyenne for the hearing. Cocian also reiterated that the parties are finalizing a settlement agreement in this case, which would shorten the witness' testimony considerably. Yvonne Hogle, RMP's Associate General Counsel, said the Company agreed

with representations made by REC. In response to the Deputy Chair's inquiry, Cocian stated that it was anticipated the settlement agreement would likely be filed within 24 hours. There were no further questions or comments. Steve Mink, Commission Counsel, recommended granting the *Motion by Order* only, effective immediately. Deputy Chair Fornstrom moved to act as recommended and Chairman Russell seconded the motion.

Prepared by: Barbara Tomlinson

Date of Next Open Meeting: Thursday, January 18, 2018

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED by the Commission on January 30, 2018.

Chairman William F. Russell