

# **WYOMING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Minutes of Regular Open Meeting  
Thursday, June 1, 2017  
1:30 p.m.

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

O'Kelley H. Pearson, Hickey and Evans, LLP, Counsel, City of Torrington  
Lynette Strecker, City Clerk/Treasurer, City of Torrington  
Lynn Kinnan, Deputy Clerk, City of Torrington  
Sylvia Anaya, Incoming Clerk, City of Torrington  
Dana Youtz, Electric Superintendent, City of Torrington  
Scott Kolpitcke, Copenhaver, Kath, Kitchen & Kolpitcke, LLC, Counsel,  
Garland, Light and Power (by telephone)  
Mark and Stacy Schmid, Range Solar and Wind (by telephone)  
Bruce Asay, Associated Legal Group, LLC, Counsel, Town of Walden  
Mayor Jim Dustin, Town of Walden (by telephone)  
Duke Behrens, Accountant, Town of Walden (by telephone)

Commission Staff (CS): John Burbridge, Kara Seveland, Morgan Fish, Jess  
Bottom, Dave Walker, Marci Norby, Michelle Bohanan, Steve Mink,  
Shirley McCown and Perry McCollom

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

- Docket No. 12000-20-CT-16 (Record No. 14546). Tariff filing of the City of Torrington pursuant to revised Commission Rules and Regulations, effective March 21, 2016. Commission to consider and act on Application.** Kara Seveland, Morgan Fish, Jess Bottom, Dave Walker, Marci Norby and Michelle Bohanan, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated May 18, 2017. O'Kelley H. Pearson, Dana Youtz, and Lynette Strecker, generally described the City's proposed tariff revisions. The City agreed to Commission Staff's proposed exceptions, including updating Torrington's line extension policy regarding disclosure, changing December 41<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> in the net metering policy, removing the "Code 171" reference, fixing rounding from 5 to 6 places, striking "City will make the determination" for a disputed bill, adding the word "business" to 3 days' notice under discontinuation of service, and submitting its line extension form. Burbridge recommended approval of the revised tariff application, to include the aforementioned exceptions, with final tariffs to be filed with the Commission within 10 business days of the Open Meeting, by *Order* only, effective immediately. Deputy Chair Fornstrom moved to act as recommended. Commissioner Cooley seconded the motion and Chairman Russell concurred.
- Docket No. 10003-41-CC-17 (Record No. 14645). Complaint filing by Rod Morrison against Garland Light and Power Company (Garland) requesting a hearing. Commission to consider and act on Garland's Motion to Allow Telephone Testimony filed May 18, 2017; and, Morrison's Motion (Motions).** Scott Kolpitcke, Counsel for Garland, stated it would be more cost effective for one of Garland's witnesses to appear by telephone due to the long travel time. Steve Mink, Commission Counsel, recommended

granting Garland's *Motion* by *Order* only, effective immediately. Deputy Chair Fornstrom moved to act as recommended. Commissioner Cooley seconded the motion and Chairman Russell concurred. Next, Mink explained Morrison's Motion referring to telephone appearance of two of his witnesses, but Morrison did not appear. Mink moved to table Morrison's Motion until Open Meeting on Tuesday, June 6, 2017. Deputy Chair Fornstrom moved to act as recommended. Chairman Russell seconded the motion; Commissioner Cooley did not concur.

3. **Docket No. 30019-34-GP-17 (Record No. 14662). Amended Application of the Town of Walden for authority to pass on a wholesale gas cost increase of \$1.034 per decatherm through its commodity balancing account. Commission to consider and act on Application.** Michelle Bohanan, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated May 25, 2017. Bruce Asay, Town of Walden's Counsel, explained the Town discovered that its rates had been implemented incorrectly in the application filed on March 13, 2017. Rates were applied to all areas, except Mountain Home residential customers. He said the Town filed an amended application to address the issue, refund Mountain Home customers, and requested an effective date of May 1, 2017. Asay stated the effective date should not be considered retroactive because Walden's May billing cycle is taking place now. He noted there are ongoing issues with the Town's pass on applications that may be cured when the Town changes the calculation from a biometric to a volumetric one. Asay said Commission Staffs' concerns regarding Walden's pass-on applications will be addressed and a report provided to the Commission. Duke Behrens, Town of Walden's Accountant, responded to Commissioner Cooley about the amount of the increase noting the cost per unit for gas in the summer is significantly higher because lower volumes are sold. At the same time, the cost to provide the gas stays the same making the overall cost higher. Deputy Chair Fornstrom agreed with Asay about the ongoing billing and application issues and suggested the Town consider options to streamline its billing and application process to improve consistency. Asay replied if the Town can begin using therms instead of BTUs to simplify its billing and collection, the application process could be shortened. Behrens added the Town has committed to the new billing platform. Asay said if this does not happen other options will have to be explored. Asay responded to Chairman Russell that Mountain Home customers were overcharged for a number of months and Behrens said it was approximately \$38 per customer. Behrens also said the Town planned to make the refund through a rate adjustment to maintain consistency and it would result in a larger credit since it is summer. Behrens stated the Town is committed to completing this before the next filing and will provide an accounting of what and how the refund was completed. Lori Brand, Commission Counsel, stated Commission Staff does not agree with a May 1, 2017, effective date, because the application was not amended until May 15, 2017, which changed the amount of the increase. Bohanan clarified information in the amended application with Asay and Behrens as to which rates are currently in effect. There were no further questions or comments. Brand recommended approval of the amended application for use on and after June 1, 2017, by *Notice and Order*, effective immediately. Deputy Chair Fornstrom moved to act as recommended. Commissioner Cooley seconded the motion and Chairman Russell concurred.
  
4. **Docket No. 90000-125-XO-15 (Record No. 14272). Proposed Adoption of Chapters 1 through 5 of the Wyoming Public Service Commission's Rules and Regulations. Commission to consider its *Order Forbearing Chapter 3, Sections 1(c)(v) and 2*, issued July 15, 2016, and take such action, potentially including clarification or amendment**

**of the *Order*, as the public interest may require.** Deputy Chair Fornstrom stated the Commission recognized the revised variance for Wobbe Indices in the Commission's Rules posed significant change and the Commission wanted to give utilities time to comply with the rule change. She said for this reason, the Commission instituted a forbearance period for enforcement which ends June 1, 2017. She stated that over the forbearance period, it has become clear that the Commission's *Order* needed to be clarified. She also proposed to extend the period of forbearance. She recommended the new order indicate data collected in the first quarter of 2018 (January 1 through March 31, 2018) will be subject to the 4% variance requirement. Utilities will submit the first quarter data to the Commission by April 30, 2018, and it will be considered by the Commission at an Open Meeting between May 15 and June 1, 2018. At that time, she stated, any appropriate orders of enforcement will be issued based on the Commission Rules. She further recommended notice be provided to the affected utilities no later than November 1, 2017. Chairman Russell agreed with the proposed timing and asked about additional proactive notification or action regarding the amended order. Deputy Chair Fornstrom noted the Commission will continue with quarterly reporting and add an action item section. Chairman Russell moved to issue an *Order* clarifying the *Order* issued July 15, 2016, with terms as described by Deputy Chair Fornstrom. Commissioner Cooley seconded the motion and Deputy Chair Fornstrom concurred.

Prepared by: Barbara Tomlinson

Date of Next Open Meeting: Tuesday, June 6, 2017

ACCEPTED and APPROVED by the Commission on August 8, 2017.

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Chairman William F. Russell

# **WYOMING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Minutes of Regular Open Meeting  
Tuesday, June 6, 2017  
1:30 p.m.

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

Rod Morrison, Complainant  
Mark and Stacy Schmid, Range Solar and Wind (by telephone)  
Dale W. Cottam, Bailey Stock Harmon Cottam LLP, Counsel, Nordic  
Ranches Water, LLC (by telephone)  
Ronald J. Lopez, Bailey Stock Harmon Cottam LLP, Counsel, Nordic  
Ranches Water, LLC  
Ganelle Edwards, Nordic Ranches Water, LLC (by telephone)  
Dorothy Reinhart, Nordic Ranches Water, LLC (by telephone)  
Elizabeth Missel, Nordic Ranches Utilities (by telephone)  
Cindy Munger, Nordic Ranches Utilities (by telephone)  
Doris McCormack, Bookkeeper, Orchard Valley Water  
Frank Waters, Board Member, Orchard Valley Water  
Kevin Scott, Resident, Orchard Valley  
Stacy Splittstoesser, Wyoming Regulatory Affairs Manager, Rocky  
Mountain Power (RMP)  
Yvonne Hogle, Assistant General Counsel, RMP (by telephone)  
Mike Wilding, Manager of Net Power Costs, RMP (by telephone)  
Terrell Spackman, Manager of Revenue Requirements, RMP (by  
telephone)  
Paul Hickey, Hickey and Evans, LLP, Counsel, RMP  
Katherine McDowell, McDowell Rackner Gibson, PC, Counsel, RMP (by  
telephone)  
Abby Briggerman, Holland and Hart, LLP, Counsel, Wyoming Industrial  
Consumers (WIEC)

Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA): Christopher Leger

Commission Staff (CS): John Burbridge, Rachel Meeker, Tom Wilson,  
Steve Mink, Michelle Bohanan, Shirley McCown, Perry McCollom,  
Katie Koski, Melisa Mizel, Lori Brand, Luy Luong, Morgan Fish, Kara  
Seveland and Chris Petrie

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. **Docket No. 74009-3-TA-17 (Record No. 14725). Notification of Opcom, Inc. d/b/a WCS Telecom, to cancel its registration authority to do business in Wyoming. Commission to consider acceptance of the notification for filing.**

2. **Docket No. 62058-8-RA-17 (Record No. 14728). Notification of Total Call Mobile, Inc. to cancel its registration authority to do business in Wyoming. Commission to consider acceptance of the notification for filing.**

Chairman Russell introduced the consent items. For Items #1 and #2, John Burbridge, Commission Counsel, recommended acceptance of the notifications for filing, by *Letter Order*, effective immediately. Deputy Chair Fornstrom moved to act as recommended. Commissioner Cooley seconded the motion and Chairman Russell concurred.

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

1. **Docket No. 10003-41-CC-17 (Record No. 14645). Complaint filing by Rod Morrison against Garland Light and Power Company requesting a hearing. Commission to consider and act on Complainant Rod Morrison's Motion.** Rod Morrison, Complainant, stated all witnesses will attend the hearing in person and that he will testify as well. No action by the Commission was required.
2. **Docket No: 80024-5-WA-16 (Record No. 14597). Application of Nordic Ranches Water, LLC for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to operate as a public utility rendering domestic water service to the Nordic Ranches Subdivision in Lincoln County, Wyoming. Commission to consider and act on Nordic Ranches Water, LLC's *Petition for Confidential Treatment of Customer Database and Meter Reading Worksheet and for Protective Order (Petition)*.** Ronnie Lopez, Nordic Ranches Water's Counsel, provided an overview of the *Petition* requesting certain personal data, customer names, addresses, identifying information, usage data, and lots (vacant or not), be kept confidential from the Intervenor and the public. He stated this information is not relevant to the Intervenor's position. Dale Cottam, Nordic Ranches Water's Counsel, added that the two documents at issue (the meter reading work sheet and the database information) were given to Commission Staff in response to an information request. Cottam said Nordic Ranches Water willingly provided these to the Commission, but then the Intervenor asked for everything provided in this and other Nordic Ranches Water dockets. He said the Company is seeking guidance because it needs significant protections for this information. Beth Missel, representative for Nordic Ranches Utilities, commented it already has similar documents from five years ago and wants to be able to compare them. Chairman Russell asked if Nordic Ranches Utilities objects to the *Petition* if it is allowed to have access to these documents. Missel said there would be no objection in that case. Katie Koski, Commission Counsel, commented that in 2011 the same issue arose and the Commission decided the customer list was subject to a confidentiality agreement. There were no further questions or comments. Koski recommended 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.
3. **Docket No. 80011-5-WR-17 (Record No. 14670). Application of Orchard Valley Water Co. for authority to increase its bimonthly minimum charge from \$25.00 to \$40.00 and to increase its fee for use in excess of 4000 gallons per two month period from \$1.25 to 2.00 per 1000 gallons. Commission to consider and act Orchard Valley's request for interim rates and *Petition for Confidential Treatment (Petition)*.** Melisa Mizel and Luy Luong, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated June 1, 2017. Frank Waters, Orchard Valley's President, explained the requested rate increase is due to the increased

cost of operating power, maintenance, and equipment. He said funds are low and the Company needs to build up its reserves. Waters stated Orchard Valley is asking for interim rates, effective immediately, with an expectation of an application for permanent rates to be filed soon. Doris McCormack, Orchard Valley's Bookkeeper, explained the *Petition* is needed to keep Orchard Valley's income and expenses confidential. There were no questions or comments. Lori Brand, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the request for interim rates for use on and after June 1, 2017, subject to refund and granting the *Petition* by *Notice and Order*, effective immediately. She confirmed Orchard Valley will hand deliver the notification and will submit an additional *Petition* for the one item (tax) omitted from this *Petition*. Deputy Chair Fornstrom moved to act as recommended. Commissioner Cooley seconded the motion and Chairman Russell concurred.

4. **Docket No. 20000-514-EA-17 (Record No. 14696). Application of Rocky Mountain Power to decrease current rates by \$15.7 million to refund deferred net power costs under Tariff Schedule 95, Energy Cost Adjustment Mechanism and to decrease current rates by \$528 thousand under Tariff Schedule 93 REC and SO2 Revenue Adjustment Mechanism (RRA). Commission to consider and act on Company's request for interim approval of rates.** Michelle Bohanan, Rachel Meeker, Kara Seveland and Morgan Fish, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated June 1, 2017. Stacy Splittstoesser, RMP's Wyoming Regulatory Affairs Manager, provided a brief overview about refunding deferred net power costs for 2016 pursuant to ECAM and true up the annual balancing account for RRA. She said the net decrease amounts to a 2.21% overall reduction in rates. She also stated that RMP's Customers will receive full credit for their share of revenue the Company receives. Finally, she noted the application reflects a change in the filing date to April 15, 2017, and effective date to June 15, 2017. Fish corrected an error on Page 7 of the Commission Staff *Memo* under lighting schedules. There were no further questions or comments. Lori Brand, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the interim rates request for use on and after June 15, 2017, by *Order* only, effective immediately. Deputy Chair Fornstrom moved to act as recommended. Commissioner Cooley seconded the motion and Chairman Russell concurred.
  
5. **Undocketed: Notice of Rocky Mountain Power regarding Wind Repowering. Commission to consider issuance of written notification to Rocky Mountain Power indicating whether the wind repowering project described in the *Notice of Rocky Mountain Power (Notice)* filed May 31, 2017, requires a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN).** Chris Petrie, Commission Chief Counsel, provided a *Memo* dated June 2, 2017. Paul Hickey, RMP's Counsel, commented the Commission has been provided background information on this project. He said this is the first of the filings giving notice the Company intends to repower its wind power resources in Wyoming. He commented the repowering project will allow the Company to increase its megawatt output to meet customer loads. According to Wyoming Statute, Hickey stated filing for a CPCN is not necessary when dealing with additions to an existing plant. Further, he explained Commission Rules require the Commission to act upon RMP's notice and request within ten business days. Lastly, he explained RMP will file an application for non-traditional ratemaking for the repowering project by June 30, 2017. Hickey stated RMP is asking the Commission to acknowledge the repowering project does not trigger a requirement that the Company must file a new application for a CPCN. There were no questions or comments. Petrie stated the assertion made by RMP as written is correct and recommended the Commission authorize written notification that no CPCN in this instance

is required. 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, June 8, 2017

ACCEPTED and APPROVED by the Commission on August 8, 2017.

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Chairman William F. Russell

# **WYOMING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Minutes of Regular Open Meeting  
Thursday, June 8, 2017  
1:30 p.m.

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

Heather McDowell, Associate General Counsel, Black Hills Energy (BHE)  
(by telephone)  
Jenniffer Nelson Clark, Senior Corporate Counsel, Questar Gas Company  
d/b/a Dominion Energy Wyoming (Dominion Energy) (by telephone)  
Michael Easley, Chief Executive Officer, Powder River Energy  
Corporation (PRECorp)  
Joanne Kolb, Chief Financial and Administration Officer, PRECorp (by  
telephone)

Commission Staff (CS): Katie Koski, Lori Brand, Marci Norby, Morgan  
Fish, Dave Walker, Jess Bottom, Dylan Freeman, Chris Petrie, Randy  
Phetteplace, John Burbridge, Perry McCollom, and Robert LaFaso

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. **Undocketed: Minutes for review from Open Meetings of March 23 and April 18, 2017, as prepared by Barbara Tomlinson.**
2. **Docket No. 62056-7-RA-17 (Record No. 14704). Application of Budget Prepay, Inc. for Relinquishment of Lifeline-Only, Wireless-Only Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation. Commission to consider and act on Application.** Commission Tom Wilson, CS provided a technical *Memo* dated June 2, 2017.

Chairman Russell introduced the consent items. For Item #1, Deputy Chair Fornstrom moved to approve the minutes as prepared. Commissioner Cooley seconded the motion and Chairman Russell concurred. For Item #2, Katie Koski, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the Application 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. 20003-156-EP-17 (Record No. 14649). Application of Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power Company d/b/a Black Hills Energy for authority to increase its Power Cost Adjustment by \$0.00468 per kWh for the period April 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018. Commission to consider and act on:**
  - a. **Company's Second Amended Petition for Confidential Treatment of Exhibit 4 (Normalized Earnings Report) filed on May 3, 2017; and**



**b. Company's Third Amended Petition for Confidential Treatment of Exhibit 4 (Normalized Earnings Report) (collectively Petitions) filed on May 11, 2017.**

Katie Koski, Commission Counsel, noted Holly Frontier and DynoNobel objected to the *Second Amended Petition* and that the Company had agreed to redact the normalized earnings report. Koski recommended denying the *Second Amended Petition* and approving the *Third Amended Petition*, by *Order* only, effective immediately. Deputy Chair Fornstrom moved to act as recommended. Commissioner Cooley seconded the motion and Chairman Russell concurred.

2. **Docket 30010-164-GS-17 (Record No. 14718). Application of Dominion Questar Gas Company (Dominion Energy) for authority to issue securities. Commission to consider continuance of this matter for an additional thirty (30) days pursuant to Wyo. Stat. § 37-6-104.** Jenniffer Clark, Dominion Energy's Corporate Counsel, stated Dominion Energy supports the proposed continuance. There were no questions or comments. Katie Koski, Commission Counsel, recommended granting a continuance for 30 days by *Order* only, effective immediately. Deputy Chair Fornstrom moved to act as recommended. Commissioner Cooley seconded the motion and Chairman Russell concurred.
3. **Docket No. 10014-178-CT-17 (Record No. 14633). Application of Powder River Energy Corporation to revise its Small Power Production (SPP) tariff. Commission to consider and act on Application.** Morgan Fish, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated June 2, 2017. A Court reporter was present for this item. Katie Koski, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the application as presented (avoided costs for the SPP tariff for net metering is Basin's avoided costs with losses as depicted in Application Exhibit A), but reserve any discussion on the net metering policy for the tariff docket, by *Notice and Order*, effective immediately. 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: Tuesday, June 13, 2017

ACCEPTED and APPROVED by the Commission on August 22, 2017.

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Chairman William F. Russell

# WYOMING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Minutes of Regular Open Meeting  
Tuesday, June 13, 2017  
1:30 p.m.

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

Don Smith, Member/Manager, Broken Wrench LLC, by telephone  
Tiphanie Fuss, Office Manager, Wyrulec Company  
Ryan Shilreff, General Manager, Wyrulec Company  
Russell Waldner, General Manager, Carbon Power and Light  
Shawn Taylor, Executive Director, Wyoming Rural Electric  
Association

Commission Staff: Lori Brand, Marci Norby, Michelle Bohanan,  
John Burbridge, Luy Luong

## CONSENT AGENDA

- Docket No. 80011-5-WR-17 (Record No. 14670). Application of Orchard Valley Water Co. for authority to increase its bimonthly minimum charge from \$25.00 to \$40.00 and to increase its fee for use in excess of 4000 gallons per two month period from \$1.25 to 2.00 per 1000 gallons. Commission to consider and act on Orchard Valley's *Petition for Confidential Treatment (Petition)* filed June 7, 2017.**

Chairman Russell introduced the consent item. John Burbridge, Commission Counsel, recommended 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

- Docket No. 80005-6-WT-16 (Record No. 14572). Tariff filing of Broken Wrench LLC pursuant to revised Commission Rules and Regulations, effective March 21, 2016. Commission to consider and act on Application. Don Smith, Member/Manager to appear by telephone for Broken Wrench LLC.**

Luy Luong, Commission Staff, provided a technical *Memo* dated June 7, 2017. Don Smith, Member/Manager for Broken Wrench LLC, explained the changes in Broken Wrench's tariff included clarifying that the customer is not responsible for purchasing a meter, changes to the layout of the rate sheet, updating the Company's description of its service area together with a map, and correcting formatting errors where needed. John Burbridge, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the application by *Order* only, effective immediately. Deputy Chair Fornstrom moved to act as recommended. Commissioner Cooley seconded the motion and Chairman Russell concurred.

- Docket No. 10016-64-CT-16 (Record No. 14507). Tariff filing of Wyrulec Company pursuant to revised Commission Rules and Regulations effective March 21, 2016. Commission to consider and act on tariff filing.**

Kara Seveland, Morgan Fish, Jess Bottom, Dave Walker, Marci Norby, and Michelle Bohanan, Commission Staff, provided a technical *Memo* dated June 7, 2017. Ryan

Schilreff, General Manager for Wyrulec, stated that changes to the tariff included grammatical changes for uniformity in Wyrulec's rules, formatting changes including a map of Wyrulec's service territory, and providing retail rate sheets for informational purposes. Mr. Schilreff stated that the Company agrees to submit compliance filings. He stated Wyrulec also agrees to staff's recommended changes with the exception of the changes to the Company's map orientation. Mr. Schilreff advised that the map orientation will remain north and south in accordance with the service territory, but Wyrulec will try to fix issues regarding printing. John Burbridge, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the application along with a compliance filing that addresses the areas requiring amendment as described in the staff *Memo*, be submitted no later than close of business on June 27, 2017, by *Order* only, effective immediately. Deputy Chair Fornstrom moved to act as recommended. Commissioner Cooley seconded the motion and Chairman Russell concurred.

**3. Docket No. 10002-85-CT-16 (Record No. 14564). Tariff filing of Carbon Power and Light, Inc. (Carbon) pursuant to revised Commission Rules and Regulations effective March 21, 2016. Commission to consider and act on tariff filing. Russell Waldner, General Manager, to appear in person for Carbon.**

Kara Seveland, Morgan Fish, Jess Bottom, Dave Walker, Marci Norby, and Michelle Bohanan, Commission Staff, provided a technical *Memo* dated June 7, 2017. Russell Walder, General Manager for Carbon Power and Light, Inc., presented the revised tariffs. Mr. Walder advised that an updated outage contact list has been given to the Commission and the Company agrees with making the changes stated in the staff *Memo* including more work with staff on clarifications. John Burbridge, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the application with the following conditions:

- Set a more specific time frame in tariff pages 26-27R with regard to refunds,
- Clarify service limiter language,
- Clarify the delivery to U.S. mail language,
- Clarify the language in regard to the adjustment bills,
- Correct language in the net metering on page 14 of staff *Memo*, and
- Clarify avoided costs approved by the commission.

The recommendation included that the compliance filing be submitted no later than close of business June 27, 2017, all by *Order* only, effective immediately. Deputy Chair Fornstrom moved to act as recommended. Commissioner Cooley seconded the motion and Chairman Russell concurred.

Prepared by: Sylvia Sanchez

Date of Next Open Meeting: Thursday, June 15, 2017

ACCEPTED and APPROVED by the Commission on August 08, 2017.

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Chairman William F. Russell

# **WYOMING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Minutes of Regular Open Meeting  
Thursday, June 15, 2017  
1:30 p.m.

Commissioners: Deputy Chair Kara Brighton Fornstrom  
Commissioner Robin Sessions Cooley

Jason Wilhelm, Meter Foreman, City of Torrington (Torrington)  
Silvia Anaya, Deputy Clerk, Torrington, (by telephone)  
O'Kelley Pearson, Hickey and Evans, LLP, Torrington Counsel  
Jim Webb, General Manager, Beartooth Electric Cooperative (Beartooth)  
Angie Jennings, District Manager, Beartooth  
Jenniffer Nelson Clark, Senior Corporate Counsel, Questar Gas Company  
(Questar) (by telephone)  
Kelly Mendenhall, General Manager Regulatory Affairs, Questar (by  
telephone)  
Barrie McKay, Questar  
Austin Summers, Questar  
Brand Hathaway, Manager Member Services, Fall River Rural Electric  
Cooperative (Fall River) (by telephone)  
Bryan Case, Chief Executive Officer, Fall River (by telephone)  
Jerry Rigby, Counsel, Fall River (by telephone)  
Jud Redden, General Manager, Bridger Valley Electric Association  
(Bridger Valley) (by telephone)  
Justin Sweep, Chief Financial Officer, Bridger Valley (by telephone)  
Andy Hewitt, Operations Manager, Bridger Valley (by telephone)  
Dale Madsen, Meter Department Manager, Bridger Valley (by telephone)  
Jeff Umphlett, General Manager, Big Horn Rural Electric Company (Big  
Horn) (by telephone)

Commission Staff (CS): Lori Brand, Jess Bottom, John Burbridge, Morgan  
Fish, Dave Walker, Kara Seveland, Marci Norby, Michelle Bohanan,  
and Katie Koski

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. **Undocketed: Minutes for review from Open Meetings of April 20 and May 2, 2017, as prepared by Barbara Tomlinson.**
2. **Docket No. 10008-48-CK-17 (Record No. 14741). In the Matter of the contract filing of the wholesale electric service contract between Niobrara Electric Association, Inc. and Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. Commission to consider acceptance of the contract for filing.** Jess Bottom, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated June 9, 2017.

Deputy Chair Fornstrom introduced the consent items. For Item #1, Commissioner Cooley moved to approve the minutes as prepared. Deputy Chair Fornstrom seconded the motion. For Item #2, John Burbridge, Commission Counsel, recommended acceptance of the

contract for filing by *Order* only, effective immediately. Deputy Chair Fornstrom moved to act as recommended. Commissioner Cooley seconded the motion.

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

1. **Docket No. 12000-21-CT-16 (Record No. 14548). Application of the City of Torrington for approval of its meter testing program. Commission to consider and act on application.** Morgan Fish and Dave Walker, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated June 6, 2017. O’Kelley Pearson, Torrington’s Counsel, explained the filing was submitted in September 2016, and the City has received feedback from Commission Staff regarding the filing. Jason Wilhelm, Torrington’s Meter Foreman, provided an explanation of the City’s meter testing program. He stated every meter purchased or brought back into service is tested prior to use. Further, he stated Torrington has a portable meter tester and will work directly with its customers if a meter test is requested. He explained the City will show the customer the test results, answer any questions while they are on the premises and if necessary, replace the meter. There were no questions or comments. John Burbridge, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the application by *Order* only, effective immediately. Deputy Chair Fornstrom moved to act as recommended and Commissioner Cooley seconded the motion.
  
2. **Docket No. 10017-32-CT-16 (Record No. 14522). Tariff filing of Beartooth Electric Cooperative, Inc. pursuant to revised Commission Rules and Regulations effective March 21, 2016. Commission to consider and act on tariff filing.** Kara Seveland, Morgan Fish, Marci Norby and Michelle Bohanan, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated June 9, 2017. Angie Jennings, Beartooth’s District Manager, presented Beartooth’s revised tariffs. Commission Staff proposed the following revisions to Beartooth’s tariffs: file the updated emergency contact list by July 1, 2017, as well as January and December of each following year; provide an updated line extension policy with regard to funds; under Customer Deposits, correct the spelling of premises; change two instances of “member” to “cooperative”; reinstate the words “due” and “facilities” in the Refusal to Serve New Customers and Expanding Existing Service Section; change “disconnect or disconnection” to “discontinue or discontinuation” in the Discontinuation of Service section; delete duplicate Section 1b and 3 and correct the reference and heading on Schedule of Fees; correct the duplication of sheet numbers in the rate schedule and rules and regulations (Chapter 3 Section 23 in the tariff); submit a derivation of its avoided costs; delete the facility energy charges in the net metering schedule; change the word “will” to “shall” throughout the tariffs for consistency with Commission Rules; and file its meter testing program in a separate docket by August 1, 2017. John Burbridge, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the revised tariffs, to include the aforementioned exceptions, with final tariffs to be filed within 10 business days from June 15, 2017, by *Order* only, effective immediately. Commissioner Cooley moved to act as recommended and Deputy Chair Fornstrom seconded the motion.
  
3. **Docket No. 30010-165-GT-17 (Record No. 14720) Application of Questar Gas Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Wyoming for authority to modify its tariff to reflect name change. Commission to consider and act on application.** Marci Norby, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated June 9, 2017. Barrie McKay, Questar, explained that following the approval of the merger docket, Questar paused its merger activities and waited for the rest of the affiliates to line up. He said as of May 1, 2017, Questar will be

known as Questar Gas Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Wyoming. He also said he agreed with the Commission Staff *Memo* to correct the footers in the Company's tariffs and that Questar has already made the changes. He explained the Company is waiting for approval of the application, and will use the approval date as the effective date in its tariff. An incorrect reference to Utah was also changed. There were no questions or comments. John Burbridge, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the application with Company name changes noted, by *Order* only, effective immediately. Commissioner Cooley moved to act as recommended and Deputy Chair Fornstrom seconded the motion.

4. **Docket No. 10000-22-CT-16 (Record No. 14503). Tariff filing of Fall River Rural Electric Cooperative pursuant to revised Commission Rules and Regulations effective March 21, 2016. Commission to consider and act on tariff filing.** Kara Seveland, Morgan Fish, Marci Norby and Michelle Bohanan, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated June 7, 2017. Brand Hathaway, Fall River's Manager of Member Services, presented Fall River's revised tariffs. CS proposed the following revisions to Fall River's tariffs: require Fall River include nominal voltages in the tariff; correct the tariff cross-references throughout the tariff (pages 4,5,8 and 10); change the customer deposit language so that a member is eligible for return of deposit after 12 months; under Discontinuation of Service, change "will" to "may" and incorporate CS's recommended changes; provide detailed tariff language concerning its discontinuation of service for prepaid service in cold weather periods, and work with Commission Staff to provide additional notice in this regard; include language in the tariff to notify customers of the time of meter tests; change all instances of "customer" to "member;" and file a service interruption reporting plan in a separate docket within 60 days of this date to include the issues described in the Commission Staff *Memo*. John Burbridge, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the revised tariffs, to include the aforementioned exceptions, with final tariffs to be filed within 10 business days from June 15, 2017, by *Order* only, effective immediately. Commissioner Cooley moved to act as recommended and Deputy Chair Fornstrom seconded the motion.
  
5. **Docket No. 10013-50-CT-16 (Record No. 14529) Tariff filing of Bridger Valley Electric Association, Inc. pursuant to revised Commission Rules and Regulations effective March 21, 2017. Commission to consider and act on tariff filing.** Kara Seveland, Morgan Fish, Marci Norby and Michelle Bohanan, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated June 9, 2017. Jud Redden, Bridger Valley's General Manager, presented Bridger Valley's revised tariffs. Commission Staff proposed the following revisions to Bridger Valley's tariffs: file its emergency contact list by July 1, 2017, and the following January and December of each year; change the language on Sheet R-20 to clarify that it is the "three highest months"; strike the deposit language for industrial customers on Sheet 6 with regard to the permanency of the deposit and note that deposits will be handled on a case by case basis; utilize the term "discontinuation" instead of "termination"; change "connect" charge to "reconnect" charge on Sheet 20; remove the requirement for large industrial customers to pay for interval metering on Sheet R-70; include items specified on page 13 of the Commission Staff *Memo* regarding meter testing; file a summary sheet of retail rates; reference an electronic form on the Commission website and Bridger Valley's website for outage reporting; work with Commission Staff to update terminology in the Qualifying Facility section; send a letter prior to a wholesale rate change with backup data notifying the Commission; work with Commission Staff to include tariff language to explain how a potential net metering utility could obtain the avoided cost rate from Bridger

Valley; reinstate the language “prior to meter being shown in error pursuant to W.S. § 37-2-222” with regard to test meter accuracy; remove references to bylaws; insert a determination of billing demand on Sheet 5; delete the Special Provision section and insert a Minimum Charge section with regard to irrigation pumping; and work with Commission Staff to clarify duplications as explained by Commissioner Cooley. John Burbridge, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the revised tariffs, to include the aforementioned exceptions, with final tariffs to be filed within 10 business days from today, by *Order* only, effective immediately. Commissioner Cooley moved to act as recommended and Deputy Chair Fornstrom seconded the motion.

6. **Docket No. 10019-63-CA-16 (Record No. 14552). Application of Big Horn Rural Electric Company for approval of Service Interruption Reporting Plan. Commission to consider and act on Application.** Dave Walker and Morgan Fish, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated June 9, 2017. Jeff Umphlett, Big Horn’s General Manager, commented Sheet 33 of its tariff references the filing of a Service Interruption Reporting Plan as a separate docket. There were no questions or comments. Katie Koski, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the application by *Order* only, effective immediately. Commissioner Cooley moved to act as recommended and Deputy Chair Fornstrom seconded the motion.

Prepared by: Barbara Tomlinson

Date of Next Open Meeting: Thursday, June 22, 2017

ACCEPTED and APPROVED by the Commission on September 12, 2017.

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Chairman William F. Russell