

WYOMING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Minutes of Regular Open Meeting
Tuesday, November 1, 2016
1:30 p.m.

Commissioners: Chairman Alan B. Minier
Commissioner Kara Brighton

Stacy Splittstoesser, Wyoming Regulatory Affairs Manager, Rocky Mountain Power (RMP)

Daniel Solander, Senior Attorney, RMP (by telephone)

Kelly Mendenhall, General Manager Regulatory Affairs, Questar Gas Company (by telephone)

Jennifer Nelson Clark, Senior Corporate Counsel, Questar Gas Company (by telephone)

Barrie McKay, General Manager, Questar Gas Company (by telephone)

Mike Orton, Director, Energy Efficiency, Questar Gas Company (by telephone)

Commission Staff: John Burbridge, Morgan Fish, Dave Walker, Lori Brand, Kara Seveland and Michelle Bohanan

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Undocketed: Open meeting minutes for review by the Commission for the regular open meetings of August 25, September 6, 8, 2016 and the ETC open meeting of September 8, 2016, as prepared by Barbara Tomlinson.**

Chairman Minier introduced the consent item. Commissioner Brighton moved to approve the minutes as written. Chairman Minier seconded the motion.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. **Docket No. 20000-501-EA-16 (Record No. 14479). Application of Rocky Mountain Power for approval of its Agreement with High Plains Power, Inc. Commission to consider and act on application and *Petition for Confidential Treatment (Petition)*.** Morgan Fish and Dave Walker, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated October 19, 2016. Stacy Splittstoesser, RMP's Wyoming Regulatory Affairs Manager, explained the service territory agreement with High Plains Power is for RMP to supply power to a customer within High Plains Power's certificated service territory, but located closer to RMP's infrastructure, resulting in a significant cost savings to the customer. She said High Plains Power discovered typographical errors in the original agreement and confirmed these errors have now been corrected. There were no questions or comments. John Burbridge, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the application and granting the *Petition* by *Order* only, effective immediately. Commissioner Brighton moved to act as recommended and Chairman Minier seconded the motion.
2. **Docket No. 30010-156-GT-16 (Record No. 14556). Application of Questar Gas Company to amortize the Conservation Enabling Tariff balancing account.**

Commission to consider and act on Application. Kara Seveland, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated October 26, 2016. Kelly Mendenhall, Questar's General Manager, Regulatory Affairs, explained this application is for authority to amortize the August 2016 under collected balance in the amount of 278,622.00, resulting in an approximate decrease in a typical residential General Service customer bill of approximately \$4.00 or .5%. Mendenhall further stated the Company reviewed Commission Staff requests listed in the *Memo* for information in future applications and stated Questar will comply by including historical and projected weather normalized volumes in future filings. There were no questions or comments. Lori Brand, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the application to include language for Commission Staff's requests for future filings, for use on and after November 1, 2016, by *Order* only, effective immediately. Commissioner Brighton moved to act as recommended and Chairman Minier seconded the motion.

3. **Docket No. 30010-157-GT-16 (Record 14558). Application of Questar Gas Company to amortize the Energy Efficiency deferred account balance. Commission to consider and act on Application.** Michelle Bohanan, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated October 26, 2016. Kelly Mendenhall, Questar's General Manager, Regulatory Affairs, explained this proposal is for authority to increase the amount being amortized from approximately \$77,000.00 to \$174,000.00, which is a \$97,000.00 increase. The proposed increase is due to higher participation in the builder and business rebate programs, resulting in an approximate net increase of \$2.32 or .30% to the general service customer bill. Referring to the *Memo*, Mendenhall noted the Company's current tariff does not explicitly state that the CET and energy efficiency components of bills are calculated using weather normalized volumes and, therefore, the Company will amend the language in the Company's pending tariff revision application for compliance with the Commission's Rules. Mendenhall further stated the Company reviewed Commission Staff requests listed in the *Memo* for information in future applications, and stated Questar will comply by including historical and projected weather normalized volumes in future filings, as well as the carrying charge calculation and historical monthly activity. Mendenhall said the Company typically provides historical monthly activity and the Company's failure to provide the information was merely an oversight. There were no further questions or comments. Lori Brand, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the application to include a list of additional items Commission Staff requested in the *Memo* for future filings, for use on and after November 1, 2016, by *Order* only, effective immediately. Commissioner Brighton moved to act as recommended and Chairman Minier seconded the motion.

Prepared by: Barbara Tomlinson

Date of Next Open Meeting: Thursday, November 3, 2016

ACCEPTED and APPROVED by the Commission on December 22, 2016.

Chairman Alan B. Minier

WYOMING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Minutes of Regular Open Meeting
Thursday, November 10, 2016
1:30 p.m.

Commissioners: Chairman Alan B. Minier
Deputy Chairman William F. Russell
Commissioner Kara Brighton

Commission Staff (CS): John Burbridge, Lori Brand and Katie Koski

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Undocketed: Open meeting minutes for review by the Commission for the regular open meeting of September 13, 2016, and ETC Open Meeting of September 22, 2016 as prepared by Barbara Tomlinson.**
- 2. Docket Nos. 70000-1635-TK-16 and 70043-35-TK-16 (Record No. 14518). Contract filing of Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC for authority to enter into a Carrier Partner for Interconnected VoIP Provider Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement with Level 3 Communications, LLC. Commission to consider and act on Agreement.** Tom Wilson, CS, provided a technical Memo dated November 3, 2016.
- 3. Docket No. 70003-179-TK-16 (Record No. 14519). Contract filing of CenturyTel of Wyoming, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink for authority to enter into a Relative Use Factor Amendment to the Commercial Mobile Radio Services (CMRS) Interconnection Agreement with New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC and its Commercial Mobile Radio Service Affiliates. Commission to consider and act on Agreement.** Tom Wilson, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated November 3, 2016.
- 4. Docket No. 70009-470-TT-16 (Record No. 14494). Tariff Filing of United Telephone Company of the West d/b/a CenturyLink of the West regarding WUSF credits to be applied to customer bills. Commission to consider and act on Application.** Rachel Meeker, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated November 4, 2016.
- 5. Docket No. 30022-274-GK-15 (Record No. 14463). Contract filing of Black Hills Gas Distribution d/b/a Black Hills Energy of Gas Purchase Contract for the Choice Gas Program year ending May 31, 2017. Commission to consider acceptance of four additional contracts for filing and to consider and act on *Petition for Confidential Treatment of Attachments B1, B2, C, D1 and D2 (Petition)*.** Marci Norby, CS, provided a technical Memo dated November 4, 2016.

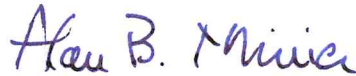
Chairman Minier introduced the consent items. For Item #1, Deputy Chairman Russell moved to approve the *Minutes* as written. Commissioner Brighton seconded the motion and Chairman Minier concurred. For Items #2 and #3, Lori Brand, Commission Counsel, recommended approving the Agreements, for Item #4, approving the tariff filing, and, for

Item #5, accepting the contract for filing and granting the *Petition*, all by *Order* only, effective immediately. Deputy Chairman Russell moved to act as recommended. Commissioner Brighton seconded the motion and Chairman Minier concurred.

Prepared by: Angie Elliott

Date of Next Open Meeting: Thursday, November 17, 2016

ACCEPTED and APPROVED by the Commission on January 17, 2017.



Chairman Alan B. Minier

WYOMING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Minutes of Regular Open Meeting
Thursday, November 3, 2016
1:30 p.m.

Commissioners: Chairman Alan B. Minier
Commissioner Kara Brighton

Liz Zerga, Jubin & Zerga, LLC, Counsel for Rural Telecommunications
Companies

Tre Hendricks, Senior Corporate Counsel, CenturyLink (by telephone)

Commission Staff: Melisa Mizel, Lori Brand, Chris Petrie, Tom Wilson
and Katie Koski.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Docket Nos. 70003-178-TK-16 & 70222-21-TK-16 (Record No. 14510). Contract filing of CenturyTel of Wyoming, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink for authority to enter into an Interconnection Agreement with dishNET Wireline, LLC. Commission to consider and act on Agreement.** Tom Wilson, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated October 28, 2016.
2. **Docket Nos. 70000-1634-TK-16 & 70248-2-TK-16 (Record No. 14513). Contract filing of Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC for authority to enter into an Interconnection Agreement with Wide Voice, LLC. Commission to consider and act on Agreement.** Tom Wilson, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated October 28, 2016.

Chairman Minier introduced the consent items. For Items #1 and #2, Katie Koski, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the Agreements by *Order* only effective immediately. Commissioner Brighton moved to act as recommended and Chairman Minier seconded the motion.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Undocketed:

a. Commission to consider public notice requirements applicable to tariff change applications filed by telecommunications companies providing noncompetitive essential services and establish public notice protocol for applications filed by such companies to revise service rules and regulations to comply with recently revised Commission rules. Chris Petrie, Secretary and Chief Counsel, said he was contacted by representatives of several telecommunications companies questioning the need for publication of notices by newspaper due to the cost. He said one area of concern is where a provider of non-competitive services files an application for a tariff housekeeping matter to eliminate obsolete competitive services not considered essential. The second area of concern relates to providers of non-competitive essential services filing tariff changes for compliance with the Commission's recently revised rules. Petrie noted that whether notice is required is dependent upon the classification of the tariff change. He stated if the tariff

change is clearly more housekeeping and no substantive changes are made then perhaps the notice requirements could be waived, but an application would still need to be filed.

A discussion followed regarding how the foregoing notice determinations should be made. Liz Zerga, Counsel for several rural telecommunications companies, added notice can be achieved by means other than newspaper publication, i.e. through a company website posting, via electronic delivery, or notices inserted into bills. Chairman Minier expressed concern about possible push back from the newspaper industry and the need for a narrower solution. Commissioner Brighton expressed concern about the effectiveness of bill inserts. Commissioner Brighton stated achieving actual notice is the goal and the Commission wants to increase the ability for customers to participate, which could be different for each company. Chairman Minier and Commissioner Brighton concluded that Commission Staff, by using a common sense approach, can entertain requests from companies when they file an application and review each application for notice requirements on a case-by-case basis.

b. Commission to consider public notice requirements applicable to telecommunications interconnection agreement and other telecommunications company filings pertaining to inter-company relationships and establish public notice protocol for such applications. Tre Hendricks, CenturyLink's Senior Corporate Counsel, explained noticing interconnection agreements occurs upon release of the Commission's agenda and there is no additional benefit to newspaper publication. Petrie suggested since these agreements pertain to the relationship between companies, publication by distribution through the GovDelivery system provides proper notification and avoids any unnecessary expense. Chairman Minier noted the Commission never has had a member of the public express any interest in these type of agreements and thought this approach makes sense. Commissioner Brighton agreed. Petrie suggested the Commission produce a message to be delivered to all telecommunications companies about the new policy to utilize the GovDelivery notification system for interconnection agreements.

Petrie recommended for Item #1a, Commission Staff be directed to analyze applications fitting into that category on a case by case basis and to consult with the Commission in uncertain situations to avoid newspaper publication costs when unnecessary; and for Item #1b, to distribute an email message to telecommunications carriers notifying of the use of the GovDelivery system for notice of interconnection agreement filings. Commissioner Brighton moved to act as recommended and Chairman Minier seconded the motion.

Prepared by: Barbara Tomlinson

Date of Next Open Meeting: Tuesday, November 8, 2016

ACCEPTED and APPROVED by the Commission on January 26, 2017.

Chairman Alan B. Minier

WYOMING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Minutes of Regular Open Meeting
Tuesday, November 8, 2016
1:30 p.m.

Commissioners: Chairman Alan B. Minier
Deputy Chairman William F. Russell
Commissioner Kara Brighton

Amanda “Mandy” Good, Hirst Applegate, LLP, Counsel for Powder River Energy Corporation (PRECorp)
Stacy Splittstoesser, Wyoming Regulatory Affairs Manager, Rocky Mountain Power Company (RMP)
Heide Caswell, Engineering and Network Performance Director, RMP
Jim Bolinger, Distribution Director, RMP
Daniel Solander, Senior Counsel, RMP (by telephone)

Commission Staff (CS): Katie Koski, Rachel Meeker, John Burbridge,
Dave Walker, Morgan Fish and Perry McCollom

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Docket No. 30013-316-GK-16 (Record No. 14481). Confidential Contract filing of Montana Dakota Utilities Co. Commission to consider acceptance of contracts for filing and consider and act on Amended Petition for Confidential Treatment of Purchase Gas Contracts dated September 27, 2016 (Amended Petition).** Rachel Meeker, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated October 26, 2016.

Chairman Minier introduced the consent item. John Burbridge, Commission Counsel, recommended acceptance of the contracts for filing and granting the *Petition*, by *Order* only, effective immediately. Deputy Chairman Russell moved to act as recommended. Commissioner Brighton seconded the motion and Chairman Minier concurred.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. **Docket No. 10014-174-CK-16 (Record No. 14495). Confidential Contract filing of Powder River Energy Corporation. Commission to consider acceptance of contract for filing and Amended Petition for Confidential Treatment of Contract Filing (Petition).** Dave Walker and Morgan Fish, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated October 26, 2016. Mandy Good, PRECorp’s Counsel, explained PRECorp filed a contract with Basin Electric dated January 21, 1997 with all amendments currently in effect, as well as included all original exhibits to the base contract as Commission Staff requested. Good stated Exhibit 1, the 1997 base contract, is superseded by subsequent amendments and no longer needs to be confidential in its entirety and therefore she brought non-confidential copies for filing. There were no questions or comments. John Burbridge, Commission Counsel, recommended acceptance of the contract for filing and granting the *Petition*, with the exception of Exhibit 1, by *Order* only, effective immediately. Deputy Chairman Russell moved to act as recommended. Commissioner Brighton seconded the motion and Chairman Minier concurred.

2. **Docket No. 20000-497-EA-16 (Record No. 14408). Notification of Rocky Mountain Power (RMP) of a Major Event Report on April 25–27, 2016, due to a severe weather event that caused outages in the Rock Springs and Laramie areas. Commission to consider and act on request to categorize the event as a major event and *Petition for Confidential Treatment (Petition)*.** Perry McCollom, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated November 1, 2016. Stacy Splittstoesser, RMP’s Wyoming Regulatory Affairs Manager, provided details about a storm that occurred in central and southern Wyoming on April 25, 2016, where 21,077 customers experienced outages in Rock Springs and Laramie due to ice build-up and lightning damage. She said all power was restored within 24 hours and estimated the total cost from the storm at \$148,000. Jim Bolinger, RMP’s Distribution Director, provided a handout to the Commissioners describing the event that started as a lightning storm, which changed to rain, then freezing rain, and finally, heavy wet snow, which caused most of the damage. He said a double circuit transmission pole in Laramie burned down. In response to a question from Deputy Chairman Russell, Bolinger stated RMP de-energized the pole and the local fire department watered it down. On page 4 and 5 of the handout, Bolinger showed the Commission the replacement pole. Bolinger stated the switch was iced-up and, therefore, RMP could not close it. Consequently, RMP has since replaced the switch, as shown on page 6 and 7 of the handout. Pointing to page 8, Bolinger stated Rock Springs mostly had customer weather damage such as broken trees weighed down with snow and ice, as well as iced-up conductors. He responded to Deputy Chairman Russell that tree trimming which runs on a four-year cycle was last completed three years ago. There were no further questions or comments. John Burbridge, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the Request to categorize the event as a Major Event and granting the *Petition*, both by *Order* only, effective immediately. Deputy Chairman Russell moved to act as recommended. Commissioner Brighton seconded the motion and Chairman Minier concurred.

3. **Undocketed: Commission to receive presentation from representatives of Rocky Mountain Power regarding the Company’s 2016 Service Quality Review Report (Report) and take such action as the public interest may require.** Heide Caswell, RMP’s Engineering Director, gave a detailed explanation of the service quality review report, which she said is a communication aid to explain reliability for the year and augments the quarterly service interruption reporting results. Caswell discussed the report, including an explanation of the Company’s standards, customer guarantee program for appointments and restoration surrounding outages, as well as responses to noted problems. She said the Company’s target is to deliver a System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI) of cumulative minutes of interruption between 135 minutes to 175 minutes and a System Average Interruption Frequency Index (SAIFI) of 1.4 to 1.8, excluding major events. Caswell stated that RMP’s reliability performance was 1 minute off of the SAIDI target. She provided additional information about communication of problems and performance ranges with respect to outages that went longer than expected and what RMP did to resolve the issues. There were 12 significant event days, which accounted for ½ of the SAIDI. Caswell said one major event that did not meet the SAIDI target was a Pacific storm from February 5–9, 2015. She reported RMP’s SAIFI is 1.434, which indicates there were fewer outages, but were occurring longer in duration. Jim Bolinger, RMP’s Distribution Director, said the system is performing better than in past years. He indicated the outages the Company is seeing are longer in duration because they occur mostly from car accidents and severe wind storms, and not just nuisance outages. He concluded the Company is doing the right thing to get the system into good condition thus preventing

major repair or outage issues. Caswell continued explaining RMP's goal is to have as few customers have as few outages as possible. She pointed out a historical graph of minutes of outages and noted an improving trend. Caswell also said RMP wants to gain an understanding of what contributes to unreliability problems, so the Company created three different views of data and looked at specific causes of outages, such as equipment failure, operational events, loss of supply, and planned work. In response to Deputy Chairman Russell, Caswell said it is the responder that determines and reports the cause and assigns a cause code. She said they also record what device failed and the specific facility point where the damage occurred. Bolinger added that a script asking for specific details will be implemented to prevent a communication breakdown between the field employee and dispatcher. Commissioner Brighton asked about the differences in loss of supply between the various charts. Caswell responded that typically there are not very many transmission outages that cause a large impact to distribution customers. She said equipment failure accounts for 32% of the events, but only accounts for 15% of the customers, meaning typically only affects one or two customers, with a 17% restoration time based on a quick restoration response. She explained this could be because of the lack of trees in Wyoming, as well as the planned piece. She pointed out a reference to the cause categories in the report, which also includes how many customer minutes were lost per incident, how many customers affected, incident count, and how much is contributing to SAIDI and SAIFI. Caswell explained that equipment failure loss of supply, and planned are the larger elements. "Planned" means not pre-arranged, but intentional emergency damage repair, i.e. a car hit a pole. The Company discussed they had 45,000 CML or other known cause outages and 2.5 million unknown outages, which can occur with a lightning strike because no way to determine actual cause. If RMP sees too many unknown outages, they will send out Area Improvement teams to inspect. Next, Caswell discussed the worst performing circuits, which three are selected and scored based on the distribution portion and the upstream transmission and major events. RMP monitors the scores and has a goal to improve those scores by 20%. Bolinger said the selected circuits have full blown executed reliability reports. With respect to RMP's service restoration target, the Company stated within three hours of notification of an outage the goal is to restore service to 80% of the customers; she commented total year performance was successful at 82%. She also said telephone response statistics are managed close to 80%, and complaint response is a goal of 95%. Caswell confirmed these goals are internal targets and emulate the customer guarantee program. With respect to customer guarantees, she noted there were few failures and payouts were small in 2015 and 2016. There were no questions or comments. No action by the Commission was required.

Prepared by: Barbara Tomlinson

Date of Next Open Meeting: Thursday, November 10, 2016

ACCEPTED and APPROVED by the Commission on January 26, 2017.

Chairman Alan B. Minier

WYOMING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Minutes of Regular Open Meeting
Thursday, November 17, 2016
1:30 p.m.

Commissioners: Chairman Alan B. Minier
Deputy Chairman William F. Russell
Commissioner Kara Brighton

Commission Staff (CS): John Burbridge and Katie Koski

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Undocketed: Open meeting minutes for review by the Commission for the regular open meeting of October 4, 2016, as prepared by Sylvia Sanchez.**
2. **Docket Nos. 70009-472-TK-16 and 70043-36-TK-16 (Record No. 14531). Contract filing of United Telephone Company of the West d/b/a CenturyLink of the West for authority to enter into a Carrier Partner for Interconnected VoIP Provider Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement with Level 3 Communications, LLC. Commission to consider and act on Agreement.** Tom Wilson, CS, provided a technical *Memo* dated November 10, 2016.
3. **Docket No. 74501-2-TT-16 (Record No. 14589). Notification of Encompass Communications, LLC to cancel its Interexchange Registration and Tariffs to do business in Wyoming. Commission to consider acceptance of the notification.**
4. **Docket No: 20000-502-EA-16 (Record No. 14544). Application of Rocky Mountain Power for approval to adjust the Category 2 and 3 Demand-Side Management surcharge rate in Electric Service Schedule 191, Customer Efficiency Service Charge. Commission to:**
 - a. **Consider and act on Wyoming Industrial Energy Consumers' *Petition for Leave to Intervene and Request for Hearing (Petition)*; and**
 - b. **Consider issuance of a *Special Order Authorizing One Commissioner and/or Presiding Officer to Conduct Public Hearing*.**

Chairman Minier introduced the consent items. Deputy Chairman Russell moved to approve Item #1 as written. Commissioner Brighton seconded the motion and Chairman Minier concurred. For Item #2, Katie Koski, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the Agreement by *Order* only, effective immediately. For Item #3, she recommended acceptance of the Notification for filing by *Order* only, effective immediately. For Item #4, she recommended granting the *Petition* and issuance of a *Special Order* by *Order* only, effective immediately. Deputy Chairman Russell moved to act as recommended. Commissioner Brighton seconded the motion and Chairman Minier concurred.

Prepared by: Barbara Tomlinson

Date of Next Open Meeting: Tuesday, November 22, 2016

ACCEPTED and APPROVED by the Commission on January 26, 2017.

Chairman Alan B. Minier

WYOMING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Minutes of Regular Open Meeting
Tuesday, November 22, 2016
1:30 p.m.

Commissioners: Chairman Alan B. Minier
Commissioner Kara Brighton

Lori Cielinski, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (by telephone)

Commission Staff (CS): John Burbridge, Lori Brand, Steve Mink, Chris Petrie, and Melisa Mizel

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Docket No. 20000-474-EA-15 (Record No. 14089). The filing of Rocky Mountain Power's updated 2015 Integrated Resource Plan. Commission to consider and act on *Petition for Confidential Treatment (Petition)*.**
2. **Docket No: 70000-1633-TC (Record No. 14511). Formal complaint of Ron and Alyce Carter against Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC alleging unreliable and intermittent telephone service in zone 3 of the Lusk, Wyoming exchange area. Commission to consider issuance of a *Special Order Authorizing One Commissioner and/or Presiding Officer to Conduct Public Hearing*.**

Chairman Minier introduced the consent items. For Item #1, Lori Brand, Commission Counsel, recommended granting the *Petition* and for Item #2, issuance of a *Special Order*, both by *Order* only, effective immediately. Commissioner Brighton moved to act as recommended and Chairman Minier seconded the motion.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. **Undocketed. Notification from the Committee on Telecommunications for the Communications Impaired of an increase in the monthly access line special fee from \$0.08 to \$0.09. Commission to consider action to provide for all local exchange companies and radio communications service providers to include and identify the \$0.09 special fee on customers' monthly bills effective January 1, 2017 (W.S. § 16-9-209).** Lori Cielinski, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, provided an explanation of the analysis the Committee on Telecommunications conducted on expenditures, revenue and the cash reserves balance. She stated the target on the cash reserve is a 10 month operating expense. She concluded that expenditures are expected to increase, revenue is expected to remain the same and the cash reserve balance will go below the target range beginning in December. The recommendation is to increase the special fee one penny per access line or wireless account, effective January 1, 2017, and then the Committee would meet again to review the increase in September 2017. Commissioner Brighton inquired about the Committee's recourse with regard to the length of time for collection of the fee from all carriers. Cielinski responded there are two factors impacting the reported length of time to collect the fee: (1) sometimes the fee is never collected; and (2) many times it takes a while

to collect the fee, and often the Company will submit a remittance in the wrong amount, but instead of correcting the amount will adjust the access line to match the remitted amount. Cielinski stated the Committee has never done an audit for the program or any carriers. She further stated she is open to any suggestions from the Commission on how to improve the length of time for collection. Chris Petrie, Commission Chief Counsel, explained telecommunications carriers could be informed of the surcharge increase by letter from the Commission requesting the fee be included on all bills. Alternatively, Petrie stated the Commission could issue an order which would function as more of an enforcement aid. He recommended the Commission notify all the carriers by order, noting language in Wyoming's Statutes gives the Commission the option to enforce the order. Responding to Commissioner Brighton, Petrie said there may be an opportunity to crosscheck for compliance and would discuss this with Melisa Mizel, Commission Staff. Petrie recommended approval of this action through issuance of an *Order* to assist in obtaining compliance. Chairman Minier moved to act as recommended and Commissioner Brighton seconded the motion.

Prepared by: Barbara Tomlinson

Date of Next Open Meeting: Tuesday, November 29, 2016

ACCEPTED and APPROVED by the Commission on January 26, 2017.

Chairman Alan B. Minier