

January 6, 2021

The Public Service Commission convened on January 6, 2021, 10:01 a.m. via teleconference under North Dakota Executive Order 2020-16 in response to the COVID-19 crisis in the United States.

Commissioners Fedorchak, Christmann and Kroshus attended in the Commission Hearing Room, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota.

Minutes

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the minutes of December 16, 2020, be approved.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-10-164  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a  
Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc.  
230kV Transmission Line - McIntosh,  
Dickey County  
Siting Application

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission find that the tree and shrub mitigation may cease and issue a siting application fee final refund in the amount of \$14,338.03 in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., 230kV Transmission Line – McIntosh, Dickey County, Siting Application, Case No. PU-10-164.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-11-66  
Bear Paw Energy, LLC  
Garden Creek to Riverview NGL  
Pipeline, McKenzie  
Siting Application

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission find that the tree and shrub mitigation is satisfactory and issue a siting application fee final refund in the amount of \$15,089.59 in Bear Paw Energy, LLC, Garden Creek to Riverview NGL Pipeline, McKenzie, Siting Application, Case No. PU-11-66.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-15-137  
ONEOK Bakken Pipeline, L.L.C.  
Lonesome Creek NGL Pipeline Pjct -  
McKenzie  
Siting Application

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission find that the tree and shrub mitigation is satisfactory and issue a siting application fee final refund in the amount of \$4,500 in ONEOK Bakken Pipeline, L.L.C., Lonesome Creek NGL Pipeline Pjct – McKenzie, Siting Application, Case No PU-15-137.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-15-801  
ONEOK Bakken Pipeline, L.L.C.  
8-Inch NGL Pipeline - McKenzie and  
Dunn Counties  
Siting Application

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission find that the tree and shrub mitigation is satisfactory and issue a siting application fee final refund in the amount of \$15,000 in ONEOK Bakken Pipeline, L.L.C., 8-Inch NGL Pipeline – McKenzie and Dunn Counties, Siting Application, Case No. PU-15-801.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

OSM 2020 Evaluation Reports

Moved to the Regular Agenda – Page 3

Case No. PU-20-159  
Otter Tail Power Company  
Meter Readings Waiver  
Approval

Ms. Fedorchak: Finding that a state of emergency has been declared to prevent and contain the spread of COVID-19, I move the Commission approve the December 9, 2020 request to extend, from December 31, 2020, to March 31, 2021, the suspension of meter readings at locations where the electric meter is located inside an inhabited structure, and authorize estimate meter reads for those locations, Otter Tail Power Company, Meter Readings Waiver, Approval, Case No. PU-20-159.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-17-192  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
Thunder Spirit Wind Project  
Siting Application

Withdrawn

Case No. PU-20-381  
NuStar Pipeline Operating Partnership  
L.P.  
10" North System Pipeline Relocation -  
Cass County  
Siting Application

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission adopt the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order in NuStar Pipeline Operating Partnership L.P, 10" North System Pipeline Relocation - Cass County, Siting Application, Case No. PU-20-381.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-20-458  
BEK Communications Cooperative  
Designated Eligible Carrier  
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission issue a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing in BEK Communications Cooperative, Designated Eligible Carrier, Application, Case No. PU-20-458.

Mr. Kroshus: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-11-171  
Ashtabula Wind III, LLC  
Wind Energy Center - Barnes County  
Decommissioning Plan & Cost

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission approve the parent guarantees filed on December 22, 2020, in Ashtabula Wind III, LLC, Wind Energy Center - Barnes County, Decommissioning Plan & Cost, Case No. PU-11-171, and in Baldwin Wind, LLC, Wind Energy Center - Burleigh County, Decommissioning Plan & Cost, Case No. PU-11-172.

Mr. Kroshus: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-11-172  
Baldwin Wind, LLC  
Wind Energy Center - Burleigh County  
Decommissioning Plan & Cost

Case No. RC-19-180  
Coteau Properties Company  
Bond Release 8, Permit NACT-9101  
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission approve Bond Release No. 8 for Surface Coal Mining Permit No. NACT-9101, held by the Coteau Properties Company for the Freedom Mine, to release all reclamation liabilities on 318.628 acres of land located in the W½ of Section 15, T145N, R86W, Mercer County, effective February 8, 2021, unless a formal hearing is requested, in Coteau Properties Company, Bond Release 8, Permit NACT-9101, Application, Case No. RC-19-180.

Mr. Kroshus: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-19-318  
Aurora Wind Project, LLC  
Aurora Wind Project - Williams County  
Decommissioning Plan & Cost

Withdrawn

OSM 2020 Evaluation Reports

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission accept the federal Office of Surface Mining's 2020 Evaluation Reports for the Coal Regulatory and Abandoned Mine Lands Programs.

Mr. Kroshus: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-20-379  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
2020 Natural Gas Rate Increase  
Application

Mr. Kroshus: I move the Commission issue the Notice of Public Input Sessions and Hearing in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., 2020 Natural Gas Rate Increase, Application, Case No. PU-20-379.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-20-436  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
Generation Resource Cost Recovery  
Rates

Mr. Kroshus: I move the Commission adopt the Order in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., Generation Resource Cost Recovery, Rates, Case No. PU-20-436.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-20-440  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
Renewable Resource Cost Recovery  
Rates

Mr. Kroshus: I move the Commission adopt the Order in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., Renewable Resource Cost Recovery, Rates, Case No. PU-20-440.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-20-441  
Northern States Power Company  
2021 Electric Rate Increase  
Application

Mr. Kroshus: I move the Commission issue a Notice of Public Input Sessions in Northern States Power Company, 2021 Electric Rate Increase, Application, Case No. PU-20-441.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. WM-20-459  
Public Service Commission  
Farmers Union Oil Company of Devils  
Lake  
W & M Enforcement

Mr. Kroshus: I move the Commission adopt the Order on Consent Agreement in Public Service Commission, Farmers Union Oil Company of Devils Lake, W & M Enforcement, Case No. WM-20-459.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-20-441  
Northern States Power Company  
2021 Electric Rate Increase  
Application

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission retain Mitch Armstrong and Jon Lengowski as Advocacy Counsel in processing Northern States Power Company, 2021 Electric Rate Increase, Application, Case No. PU-20-441.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-20-433  
Northern States Power Company  
Advance Prudence - 200 MW  
Heartland Divide Wind II  
Application

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission retain Mitch Armstrong and Jon Lengowski as Advocacy Counsel in processing Northern States Power Company, Advance Prudence - 200 MW Heartland Divide Wind II, Application, Case No. PU-20-433.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-20-425  
Northern States Power Company  
Advance Prudence - Four Repowered  
Wind Projects  
Application

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission retain Mitch Armstrong and Jon Lengowski as Advocacy Counsel in Northern States Power Company, Advance Prudence - Four Repowered Wind Projects, Application, Case No. PU-20-425.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

ATTEST

THE COMMISSION ADJOURNED AT 11:52 A.M.



Executive Secretary



JULIE FEDORCHAK, CHAIR