

May 5, 2021

The Public Service Commission convened in the Commission Hearing Room, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota, on May 5, 2021, 10:00 a.m. Present were Commissioners Fedorchak, Christmann and Kroshus.

Minutes

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the minutes of April 14, 2021, be approved.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-11-662
Allete Clean Energy, Inc.
100 MW Clean Energy #1 Wind Pjc -
Mercer & Morton
Siting Application

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission issue a siting application fee interim refund in the amount of \$74,375.32 in Allete Clean Energy, Inc., 100 MW Clean Energy #1 Wind Pjc – Mercer & Morton, Siting Application, Case No. PU-11-662.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-17-51
NuStar Pipeline Operating Partnership
L.P.
Mapleton Terminal - Cass County
Siting Application

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission issue a siting application fee final refund in the amount of \$6,375 in NuStar Pipeline Operating Partnership L.P., Mapleton Terminal – Cass County, Siting Application, Case No. PU-17-51.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-17-97
Cenex Pipeline, LLC
10" Refined Fuels Pipeline Williams,
Mountrail, Ward
Siting Application

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission approve a one-year extension in the Tree and Shrub Mitigation Plan filed on December 4, 2020, based on drought conditions, in Cenex Pipeline, LLC, 10" Refined Fuels Pipeline Williams, Mountrail, Ward, Siting Application, Case No. PU-17-97.

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

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 \$20,341.43 in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., Thunder Spirit Wind Project, Siting Application, Case No. PU-17-192.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-21-41
Daktel Communications LLC
Designated Eligible Carrier Expansion
Application

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission bill Daktel Communications LLC \$474.60 for costs incurred to date in Daktel Communications LLC, Designated Eligible Carrier Expansion, Application, Case No. PU-21-41.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-21-88
Red River Rural Telephone Association
Designated Eligible Carrier Expansion
Application

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission bill Red River Rural Telephone Association \$492.59 for costs incurred to date in Red River Rural Telephone Association, Designated Eligible Carrier Expansion, Application, Case No. PU-21-88.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-18-108
Public Service Commission
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
Damage Prevention Enforcement

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission close Public Service Commission, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., Damage Prevention Enforcement, Case No. PU-18-108.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-21-30
Otter Tail Power Company
2021 Renewable Resource Cost
Recovery Adj. Factor -
Rates

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission issue an application fee refund in the amount of \$9,606.67 in Otter Tail Power Company, 2021 Renewable Resource Cost Recovery Adj. Factor, Rates, Case No. PU-21-30.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-21-100
Otter Tail Power Company
Brady and Danielle Buchanan -
Stutsman County
Public Convenience & Necessity

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission issue a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing in Otter Tail Power Company, Brady and Danielle Buchanan - Stutsman County, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-21-100.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-21-116
Otter Tail Power Company
Travis & Kristen Ganser - Stutsman
County
Public Convenience & Necessity

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission issue a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing in Otter Tail Power Company, Travis & Kristen Ganser - Stutsman County, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-21-116.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-18-351
Aurora Wind Project, LLC
345 kV Transmission Line - Williams
and Mountrail
Siting Application

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission approve the Tree and Shrub Mitigation Plans filed on April 12, 2021, and allow one year extensions based on 2021 drought conditions, in Aurora Wind Project, LLC, 345 kV Transmission Line - Williams and Mountrail, Siting Application, Case No. PU-18-351, and in Aurora Wind Project, LLC, Aurora Wind Project – Williams County, Siting Application, Case No. PU-18-352.

Case No. PU-18-352
Aurora Wind Project, LLC
Aurora Wind Project - Williams County
Siting Application

Mr. Kroshus: I second the motion.
Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-21-121
Bowman Wind, LLC
208.7 MW Bowman Wind Project -
Bowman County
Siting Application

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission deem complete the application for a certificate of site compatibility conditioned on receipt at least 30 days prior to the hearing of the final site layout plan, including updated Figures 1 through 10 of the application with the associated GIS shapefiles and all updated studies, including updated sound, shadow flicker, and telecommunications studies, and issue a Notice of Filing and Notice of Hearing in Bowman Wind, LLC, 208.7 MW Bowman Wind Project - Bowman County, Siting Application, Case No. PU-21-121.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.
Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-21-148
Public Service Commission
Telecommunications Relay Service
Misc. Case

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission publish notice of the 2021-2022 Telecommunications Relay Service Surcharge in the daily newspapers of general circulation in the state of North Dakota, Public Service Commission, Telecommunications Relay Service, Miscellaneous Case, Case No. PU-21-148.

Mr. Kroshus: I second the motion.
Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. AU-21-153
Continental Auctioneers School
Auction School Course Approval -
Online
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission adopt the Order Granting Request for Auction School Course Approval in Continental Auctioneers School, Auction School Course Approval – Online, Application, Case No. AU-21-153.

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 adopt the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order 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-20-425
Northern States Power Company
Advance Prudence - Four Repowered
Wind Projects
Application

Mr. Kroshus: Believing that there will be no prejudice to the rights of the parties or the public interest, and finding the cases involve similar questions of law and fact, I move the Commission consolidate the captioned cases for hearing under North Dakota Admin. Code section 69-02-04-04 and issue a Notice of Consolidated Hearing in Northern States Power Company, Advance Prudence - Four Repowered Wind Projects, Application, Case No. PU-20-425 and in Northern States Power Company, Advance Prudence – 120MW Northern Wind Facility, Application, Case No. PU-21-93.

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

Mr. Kroshus: I move the Commission issue a Notice of Public Hearing in 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-20-441
Northern States Power Company
2021 Electric Rate Increase
Application

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

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

NOTE: Mr. Kroshus requested to rescind this motion. There was no opposition. Motion was rescinded. See Page 6 for further action on this case.

Case No. PU-21-8
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
Cost of Gas 2021
Tariff Monthly Adjustments

Mr. Kroshus: I move the Commission issue a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., Cost of Gas 2021, Tariff Monthly Adjustments, Case No. PU-21-8.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-21-76
Otter Tail Power Company
2021 LED Street and Area Lighting
Dusk to Dawn
Tariff and Rates

Mr. Kroshus: I move the Commission adopt the Order in Otter Tail Power Company, 2021 LED Street and Area Lighting Dusk to Dawn, Tariff and Rates, Case No. PU-21-76.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-21-83
Otter Tail Power Company
Advance Prudence- Advanced
Metering Infrastructure
Application

Mr. Kroshus: I move that the Commission issue a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing in Otter Tail Power Company, Advance Prudence- Advanced Metering Infrastructure, Application, Case No. PU-21-83.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-21-87
Northern States Power Company
Petition/Accounting/Northern Natural
Gas Refund
Approval

Mr. Kroshus: I move the Commission issue a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing in Northern States Power Company, Petition/Accounting/Northern Natural Gas Refund, Approval, Case No. PU-21-87.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-21-92
Otter Tail Power Company
Generation Resource Cost Recovery
Rates

Mr. Kroshus: I move the Commission adopt the Order in Otter Tail Power Company, Generation Resource Cost Recovery, Rates, Case No. PU 21-92.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. AM-21-18
Public Service Commission
2021 Beulah/Zap Phase 16 AML
Project

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission retain Patrick Bair to provide legal services to the Commission in processing Public Service Commission, 2021 Beulah/Zap Phase 16 AML, Project, Case No. AM-21-18 and Public Service Commission, 2021 Buechler/Velva Phase II AML, Project, Case No. AM-21-19.

Mr. Christmann: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. AM-21-19
Public Service Commission
2021 Buechler/Velva Phase II AML
Project

Case No. PU-21-93
Northern States Power Company
Advance Prudence - 120MW Northern
Wind Facility
Application

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission retain Mitch Armstrong and Jon Lengowski as Advocacy Counsel in Northern States Power Company, Advance Prudence - 120MW Northern Wind Facility, Application, Case No. PU-21-93.

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 Hearing 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."

ATTEST

THE COMMISSION ADJOURNED AT 12:02 P.M.



Executive Secretary



JULIE FEDORCHAK, CHAIR