

February 18, 2026

The Public Service Commission convened in the Commission Hearing Room, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota, on February 18, 2026, 10:00 a.m. Present were Commissioners Christmann, Haugen-Hoffart and Kringstad. Commissioner Haugen-Hoffart authorized Janel Rubert to sign on her behalf.

Minutes

Mr. Christmann: I move the minutes of February 5, 2026, be approved.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-25-261  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
Wind Farm Station Service - Wishek,  
ND  
Public Convenience & Necessity

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission reduce the application fee to \$100,000 in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., Wind Farm Station Service – Wishek, ND, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-25-261.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-26-18  
Northern States Power Company  
Cogeneration - Small Power  
Production  
Rates

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission approve Northern States Power Company's annual update of cogeneration and small power production rate schedules effective March 1, 2026, in Northern States Power Company, Cogeneration – Small Power Production, Rates, Case No. PU-26-18.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-25-304  
Minnesota Power  
202.5 MW Longspur Wind Project -  
Morton Cty  
Siting Application

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Case No. PU-25-305  
Minnesota Power  
Longspur Wind 230kV Trans Ln -  
Morton & Mercer Cty  
Siting Application

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Case No. PU-26-52  
Northern States Power Company  
2026 Natural Gas Rate Increase  
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission suspend the tariff and rates in Northern States Power Company, 2026 Natural Gas Rate Increase, Application, Case No. PU-26-52.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-25-233  
Qwest Corporation  
Designated Eligible Carrier - Partial  
Relinquish  
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission adopt the Order on Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation in Qwest Corporation, Designated Eligible Carrier – Partial Relinquish, Application, Case No. PU-25-233.

Ms. Kringstad: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-25-290  
Otter Tail Power Company  
Administrative Tariff Changes in Rate  
Schedules  
Tariff and Rates

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I move the Commission adopt the Order in Otter Tail Power Company, Administrative Tariff Changes in Rate Schedules, Tariff and Rates, Case No. PU-25-290.

Ms. Kringstad: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-25-280  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
Generation Resource Cost Recovery  
Rates

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I move the Commission adopt the Order in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., Generation Resource Cost Recovery, Rates, Case No. PU-25-280.

Ms. Kringstad: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-371  
Northern Divide Energy Storage, LLC  
Northern Divide Energy Storage -  
Burke County  
Siting Application

Ms. Kringstad: I move the Commission adopt the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order in Northern Divide Energy Storage, LLC, Northern Divide Energy Storage – Burke County, Siting Application, Case No. PU-24-371.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-25-304  
Minnesota Power  
202.5 MW Longspur Wind Project -  
Morton Cty  
Siting Application

Ms. Kringstad: I move the Commission deem complete the application in Minnesota Power, 202.5 MW Longspur Wind Project - Morton Cty, Siting Application, Case No. PU-25-304.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-25-305  
Minnesota Power  
Longspur Wind 230kV Trans Ln -  
Morton & Mercer Cty  
Siting Application

Ms. Kringstad: I move the Commission deem complete the application in Minnesota Power, Longspur Wind 230kV Trans Ln - Morton & Mercer Cty, Siting Application, Case No. PU-25-305.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-25-304  
Minnesota Power  
202.5 MW Longspur Wind Project -  
Morton Cty  
Siting Application

Case No. PU-25-305  
Minnesota Power  
Longspur Wind 230kV Trans Ln -  
Morton & Mercer Cty  
Siting Application

Mr. Christmann: I request that Zachary Pelham be appointed to provide legal services as Advisory Counsel effective February 18, 2026, in Minnesota Power, 202.5 MW Longspur Wind Project – Morton Cty, Siting Application, Case No. PU-25-304 and Minnesota Power, Longspur Wind 230kV Trans Ln – Morton & Mercer Cty, Siting Application, Case No. PU-25-305.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

ATTEST

THE COMMISSION ADJOURNED AT 10:38 A.M.

  
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Executive Secretary

  
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RANDY CHRISTMANN, CHAIR