

August 26, 2026

The Public Service Commission convened in the Commission Hearing Room, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota, on August 26, 2026, 10:00 a.m. Present were Commissioners Christmann, Haugen-Hoffart and Kringstad.

Minutes

Mr. Christmann: I move the minutes of August 12, 2026, be approved.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

State Mining and Reclamation Award  
2026 Award

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission present the 2026 North Dakota Award for Excellence in Surface Coal Mining and Reclamation to the Coyote Creek Mine.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Blaster Certification/Re-Certification  
Approval

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission approve blaster certification and re-certification for the following applicants:

| <b>Applicant</b>   | <b>Affiliation</b>            | <b>Certificate No.</b> |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Catherine Kolden   | Center Mine                   | 16-11-394-R(3)         |
| Tyrell Murrey      | Center Mine                   | 16-11-395-R(3)         |
| Christopher Droste | Center Mine                   | 26-07-472              |
| Ross Aman          | Specialized Blasting Services | 14-12-369-R(4)         |
| Joshua Boyko       | Specialized Blasting Services | 23-09-447-R(1)         |
| Samantha Lura      | Specialized Blasting Services | 26-07-471              |

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. DM-25-272  
Public Service Commission  
Oscar Renda Contracting, Inc.  
Damage Prevention Enforcement

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission close Public Service Commission, Oscar Renda Contracting, Inc., Damage Prevention Enforcement, Case No. DM-25-272.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-26-294  
Otter Tail Power Company  
AMDT Cost Recovery 2027  
Rates

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission suspend the rates and issue a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing in Otter Tail Power Company, AMDT Cost Recovery 2027, Rates, Case No. PU-26-294.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. DM-26-297  
Public Service Commission  
Central Specialties, Inc.  
Damage Prevention Enforcement

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission close Public Service Commission, Central Specialties, Inc., Damage Prevention Enforcement, Case No. DM-26-297.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-26-296  
Dakota Gasification  
Company/Roughrider Pipeline  
Name Change - Corridor #73 & Route  
#84  
Siting Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission issue First Reissued Certificate of Corridor Compatibility Number 73 and First Reissued Route Permit Number 84 to Roughrider Pipeline, LLC, formerly known as Dakota Gasification Company in Dakota Gasification Company / Roughrider Pipeline, LLC, Name Change – Corridor #73 & Route #84, Siting Application, Case No. PU-26-296.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. RC-26-242  
Falkirk Mining Company  
Variance, Permit NAFK-8405  
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission approve the Falkirk Mining Company's request for a variance to the ten-year revegetation responsibility period for 1.5 acres of reclaimed native grassland located in the SE¼ of Section 23, T146N, R82W, McLean County, where revegetation was delayed until an access road to a pit water pond was removed and reclaimed, in Falkirk Mining Company, Variance, Permit NAFK-8405, Application, Case No. RC-26-242.

Ms. Kringstad: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. RC-26-177  
Falkirk Mining Company  
Self Bond and Collateral Bond  
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission conditionally approve Self Bond No. SB-9503-1 and approve Collateral Bond No. CB-9503-7 that covers Permits NAFK-8405, NAFK-8705, and NAFK-9503 held by the Falkirk Mining Company for the Falkirk Mine in Falkirk Mining Company, Self Bond and Collateral Bond, Application, Case No. RC-26-177.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. RC-25-294  
Falkirk Mining Company  
Revision 40, NAFK-9503  
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission conditionally approve Revision 40 to Surface Coal Mining Permit NAFK-9503 held by the Falkirk Mining Company, to add mining plans for federal coal in the NW¼ of Section 12, T144N, R84W, and to update the permit's introductory, legal, surface and coal interest ownership, geology, operations plans, transportation facilities, and reclamation plans in the permit, in Falkirk Mining Company, Revision 40, Permit NAFK-9503, Application, Case No. RC-25-294.

Ms. Kringstad: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-26-241  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
2027 Electric Rate Increase  
Application

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I move the Commission adopt the Order on Interim Rates in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., 2027 Electric Rate Increase, Application, Case No. PU-26-241.

Ms. Kringstad: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-26-293  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
Ellendale 345kV Substation Expansion  
- Dickey Cty  
Siting Application

Ms. Kringstad: I move the Commission assess an application fee of \$40,000 and issue a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., Ellendale 345kV Substation Expansion – Dickey Cty, Siting Application, Case No. PU-26-293.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

ATTEST

THE COMMISSION ADJOURNED AT 11:02 A.M.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RANDY CHRISTMANN, CHAIR