

July 27, 2026

The Public Service Commission convened in the Commission Hearing Room, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota, on July 27, 2026, 10:01 a.m. Present were Commissioners Christmann, Haugen-Hoffart and Kringstad.

Minutes

Mr. Christmann: I move the minutes of July 7, 2026, be approved.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-21-380
Otter Tail Power Company
Integrated Resource Plan
Biennial Filing

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission issue an application fee final refund in the amount of \$139,512.25 in Otter Tail Power Company, Integrated Resource Plan, Biennial Filing, Case No. PU-21-380.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-19
TracFone Wireless, Inc.
Designated Eligible Carrier
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill TracFone Wireless, Inc. \$407-94 for costs incurred to date in TracFone Wireless, Inc., Designated Eligible Carrier, Application, Case No. PU-24-19.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-22
Assurance Wireless USA, L.P.
Designated Eligible Carrier
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill Assurance Wireless USA, L. P. \$411.88 for costs incurred to date in Assurance Wireless USA, L.P., Designated Eligible Carrier, Application, Case No. PU-24-22.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-88
TruConnect Communications, Inc.
Designated Eligible Carrier
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill TruConnect Communications, Inc. \$465.40 for costs incurred to date in TruConnect Communications, Inc., Designated Eligible Carrier, Application, Case No. PU-24-88.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-168
Consolidated Communications
Networks, Inc.
Designated Eligible Carrier Expansion
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill Consolidated Communications Networks, Inc., \$496.34 for costs incurred to date in Consolidated Communications Networks, Inc., Designated Eligible Carrier, Application, Case No. PU-24-168.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-288
Global Connection Inc. of America
Designated Eligible Carrier
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill Global Connection Inc. of America, \$488.53 for costs incurred to date in Global Connection Inc. of America, Designated Eligible Carrier, Application, Case No. PU-24-288.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-319
Reservation Tel / Midstate Tel /
Midstate Comm
Stanley, Medora and Beach
Exchanges
Public Convenience & Necessity

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill Midstate Communications, Inc. \$137.99 for costs incurred to date in Reservation Tel / Midstate Tel / Midstate Comm., Stanley, Medora and Beach Exchanges, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-24-319.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-319
Reservation Tel / Midstate Tel /
Midstate Comm
Stanley, Medora and Beach
Exchanges
Public Convenience & Necessity

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill Midstate Telephone Company \$137.99 for costs incurred to date in Reservation Tel / Midstate Tel / Midstate Comm., Stanley, Medora and Beach Exchanges, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-24-319.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-319
Reservation Tel / Midstate Tel /
Midstate Comm
Stanley, Medora and Beach
Exchanges
Public Convenience & Necessity

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill Reservation Telephone Cooperative \$138.00 for costs incurred to date in Reservation Tel / Midstate Tel / Midstate Comm., Stanley, Medora and Beach Exchanges, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-24-319.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-320
Reservation Tel / Midstate Tel /
Midstate Comm
Designated Eligible Carrier
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill Midstate Communications, Inc. \$137.99 for costs incurred to date in Reservation Tel / Midstate Tel / Midstate Comm., Designated Eligible Carrier, Application, Case No. PU-24-320.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-320
Reservation Tel / Midstate Tel /
Midstate Comm
Designated Eligible Carrier
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill Midstate Telephone Company, LLC \$137.99 for costs incurred to date in Reservation Tel / Midstate Tel / Midstate Comm., Designated Eligible Carrier, Application, Case No. PU-24-320.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-320
Reservation Tel / Midstate Tel /
Midstate Comm
Designated Eligible Carrier
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill
Reservation Telephone Company, LLC \$138.00 for
costs incurred to date in Reservation Tel / Midstate Tel /
Midstate Comm., Designated Eligible Carrier,
Application, Case No. PU-24-320.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-322
Nemont Telephone/Missouri
Valley/Northwest Comm
Multiple Exchanges
Public Convenience & Necessity

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill
Nemont Telephone Cooperative, Inc. \$144.42 for costs
incurred to date in Nemont Telephone/Missouri
Valley/Northwest Comm., Multiple Exchanges, Public
Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-24-322.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-322
Nemont Telephone/Missouri
Valley/Northwest Comm
Multiple Exchanges
Public Convenience & Necessity

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill
Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. \$144.42 for costs
incurred to date in Nemont Telephone/Missouri
Valley/Northwest Comm., Multiple Exchanges, Public
Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-24-322.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-322
Nemont Telephone/Missouri
Valley/Northwest Comm
Multiple Exchanges
Public Convenience & Necessity

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill
Northwest Communications Cooperative Inc. \$144.42 for
costs incurred to date in Nemont Telephone/Missouri
Valley/Northwest Comm., Multiple Exchanges, Public
Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-24-322.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-323
Nemont Telephone/Missouri
Valley/Northwest Comm
Designated Eligible Carrier
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill
Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. \$144.42 for costs
incurred to date in Nemont Telephone/Missouri
Valley/Northwest Comm., Designated Eligible Carrier,
Application, Case No. PU-24-323.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-323
Nemont Telephone/Missouri
Valley/Northwest Comm
Designated Eligible Carrier
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill
Northwest Communications Cooperative, Inc. \$144.42
for costs incurred to date in Nemont Telephone/Missouri
Valley/Northwest Comm., Designated Eligible Carrier,
Application, Case No. PU-24-323.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-323
Nemont Telephone/Missouri
Valley/Northwest Comm
Designated Eligible Carrier
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill Nemont Telephone Cooperative, Inc. \$144.42 for costs incurred to date in Nemont Telephone/Missouri Valley/Northwest Comm., Designated Eligible Carrier, Application, Case No. PU-24-323.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-386
Griggs County Telephone Co.
Leonard and Kindred Exchanges
Public Convenience & Necessity

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill Griggs County Telephone Co. \$401.44 for costs incurred to date in Griggs County Telephone Co., Leonard and Kindred Exchanges, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-24-386.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-387
Griggs County Telephone Co.
Designated Eligible Carrier
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill Griggs County Telephone Co. \$401.44 for costs incurred to date in Griggs County Telephone Co., Designated Eligible Carrier, Application, Case No. PU-24-387.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-25-185
Red River Rural Telephone Association
Wahpeton Exchange
Public Convenience & Necessity

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill Red River Rural Telephone Association \$387.10 for costs incurred to date in Red River Rural Telephone Association, Wahpeton Exchange, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-25-185.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-25-281
LTE Wireless Inc.
Designated Eligible Carrier
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill LTE Wireless Inc., \$503.96 for costs incurred to date in LTE Wireless Inc., Designated Eligible Carrier, Application, Case No. PU-25-281.

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 bill Qwest Corporation \$592.64 for costs incurred to date in Qwest Corporation, Designated Eligible Carrier – Partial Relinquish, Application, Case No. PU-25-233.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-25-285
BEK Communications Cooperative
Valley City Exchange
Public Convenience & Necessity

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill BEK Communications Cooperative \$396.21 for costs incurred to date in BEK Communications Cooperative, Valley City Exchange, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-25-285.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-25-286
BEK Communications Cooperative
Designated Eligible Carrier
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission bill BEK Communications Cooperative \$396.20 for costs incurred to date in BEK Communications Cooperative, Designated Eligible Carrier, Application, Case No. PU-25-286.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-23-342
Otter Tail Power Company
2023 Electric Rate Increase
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission issue an application fee final refund in the amount of \$46,789.66 in Otter Tail Power Company, 2023 Electric Rate Increase, Application, Case No. PU-23-342.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. DM-25-158
Public Service Commission
Trenton Water Users Cooperative
Damage Prevention Enforcement

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission close Public Service Commission, Trenton Water Users Cooperative, Damage Prevention Enforcement, Case Nos. DM-25-158, DM-25-159, and DM-25-160.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. DM-25-159
Public Service Commission
Trenton Water Users Cooperative
Damage Prevention Enforcement

Case No. DM-25-160
Public Service Commission
Trenton Water Users Cooperative
Damage Prevention Enforcement

Case No. DM-25-293
Public Service Commission
Extreme Underground HDD LLC
Damage Prevention Enforcement

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission close Public Service Commission, Extreme Underground HDD LLC, Damage Prevention Enforcement, Case No. DM-25-293.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-76
Otter Tail Power Company
My Renewable Energy Credits (My
RECs) Rider
Tariff and Rates

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission issue an application fee final refund in the amount of \$9,661.70 in Otter Tail Power Company, My Renewable Energy Credits (My RECs) Rider, Tariff and Rates, Case No. PU-24-76.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-26-173
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
Applied Digital Man Camp - Ellendale,
ND
Public Convenience & Necessity

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission adopt the Order in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., Applied Digital Man Camp – Ellendale, ND, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-26-173.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-26-219
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
APLD BIS-01 Temporary Construction
Load-Center, ND
Public Convenience & Necessity

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Case No. PU-26-236
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
APLD BIS-01-Temp. Service Switch
Yard - Center, ND
Public Convenience & Necessity

Case No. PU-26-248
Northern States Power Company
2025 Power Purchase Agreement
Costs
Compliance

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission close Northern States Power Company, 2025 Power Purchase Agreement Costs, Compliance, Case No. PU-26-248.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-23-341
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
2023 Natural Gas Rate Increase
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission issue an application fee final refund in the amount of \$134,397.50 in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., 2023 Natural Gas Rate Increase, Application, Case No. PU-23-341.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-23-367
Northern States Power Company
2024 Natural Gas Rate Increase
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission issue an application fee final refund in the amount of \$142,280.16 in Northern States Power Company, 2024 Natural Gas Rate Increase, Application, Case No. PU-23-367.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-79
Caliber North Dakota LLC
Transfer-Certificates #164; 229-Permits
#176; 239
Siting Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission issue a siting application fee final refund in the amount of \$9,875.58 in Caliber North Dakota LLC, Transfer Certificates #164, 229 Permits #176, 239, Siting Application, Case No. PU-24-79

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. RC-25-270
Coyote Creek Mining Company, L.L.C.
Revision 14, Permit NACC-1302
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission approve Revision 14 to Surface Coal Mining Permit NACC-1302, held by Coyote Creek Mining Company, L.L.C., to revise the post-mining topography in portions of the permit area, revise the post-mining land use plans, finalize five native grassland reference areas, and revise the operation and reclamation plans, as provided in Coyote Creek Mining Company, L.L.C., Revision 14, Permit NACC-1302, Application, Case No. RC-25-270.

Ms. Kringstad: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. DM-25-145
Public Service Commission
4 T Construction, Inc.
Damage Prevention Enforcement

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I move the Commission adopt the Order on Consent Agreement in Public Service Commission, 4 T Construction, Inc., Damage Prevention Enforcement, Case Number DM 25-145.

Ms. Kringstad: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-26-215
Otter Tail Power Company
Tiered Large General Service
Tariff and Rates

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I move the Commission suspend the rates and issue a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing in Otter Tail Power, Tiered Large General Service, Tariff and Rates, Case No. PU-26-215.

Ms. Kringstad: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-26-235
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
Electric Service Agreement-APLD BIS-01 LLC
Approval

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I move the Commission reduce the application fee to \$40,000 and issue a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., Electric Service Agreement-APLD BIS-01 LLC, Approval, Case No. PU-26-235.

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 suspend the tariff and 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-25-261
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
Wind Farm Station Service - Wishek,
ND
Public Convenience & Necessity

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I move the Commission issue a Notice of Hearings in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., Wind Farm Station Service – Wishek, ND, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-25-261.

Ms. Kringstad: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-26-219
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
APLD BIS-01 Temporary Construction
Load - Center, ND
Public Convenience & Necessity

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: 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 these cases for hearing under North Dakota Administrative Code Section 69-02-04-04 and issue a Notice of Opportunity for Consolidated Hearing in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., APLD BIS-01-Temp. Service Switch Yard - Center, ND, Public Convenience and Necessity, Case No. PU-26-236 and Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., APLD BIS-01 Temporary Construction Load - Center, ND, Public Convenience and Necessity, Case No. PU-26-219.

I further move the Commission assess application fees of \$40,000 in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., APLD BIS-01-Temp. Service Switch Yard - Center, ND, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-26-236 and Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., APLD BIS-01 Temporary Construction Load - Center, ND, Public Convenience and Necessity, Case No. PU-26-219.

Ms. Kringstad: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-26-82
North Plains Connector LLC
North Plains Connector Transmission
Project
Siting Application

Ms. Kringstad: I move the Commission issue a Notice of Public Hearings in North Plains Connector LLC, North Plains Connector Transmission Project, Siting Application, Case No. PU-26-82.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-26-82
North Plains Connector LLC
North Plains Connector Transmission
Project
Siting Application

Ms. Kringstad: I move the Commission issue a Notice of Technical Hearing in North Plains Connector LLC, North Plains Connector Transmission Project, Siting Application, Case No. PU-26-82.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

ATTEST


Executive Secretary

THE COMMISSION ADJOURNED AT 10:50 A.M.


RANDY CHRISTMANN, CHAIR