

September 27, 2024

The Public Service Commission convened in the Commission Hearing Room, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota, on September 27, 2024, 10:04 a.m. Present were Commissioners Christmann and Haugen-Hoffart. Commissioner Fedorchak participated by telephone and authorized Jill Kringstad to sign on her behalf.

Minutes

Mr. Christmann: I move the minutes of September 11, 2024, be approved.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

State Mining and Reclamation Award  
2024 Award

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission present the 2024 North Dakota Award for Excellence in Surface Coal Mining and Reclamation to the Coteau Properties Company's Freedom Mine.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

State Mining and Reclamation Award  
2024 Award

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission present the 2024 North Dakota Award for Excellence in Surface Coal Mining and Reclamation to the Falkirk Mine.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-13-844  
Rugby Wind LLC  
Wind Energy Center - Pierce County  
Decommissioning Plan & Cost

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission approve the updated decommissioning plan and cost estimate filed on August 29, 2024, in Rugby Wind LLC, Wind Energy Center – Pierce County, Decommissioning Plan & Cost, Case No. PU-13-844.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-307  
Otter Tail Power Company  
Metering & Distribution Tech Cost  
Recovery Rider  
Tariff and Rates

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission suspend the tariff and rates, reduce the application fee to \$10,000 and issue a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing in Otter Tail Power Company, Metering & Distribution Tech Cost Recovery Rider, Tariff and Rates, Case No. PU-24-307.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-324  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co /KEM  
Electric Coop Inc  
Lake Isabel Area - Dawson, North  
Dakota  
Service Area Agreement

Mr. Christmann: 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 or 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. / KEM Electric Coop Inc., Lake Isabel Area - Dawson, North Dakota, Service Area Agreement, Case No. PU-24-324 and Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. / KEM Electric Coop Inc., Lake Isabel Area - Dawson, North Dakota, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-24-325.

Case No. PU-24-325  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co /KEM  
Electric Coop Inc  
Lake Isabel Area - Dawson, North  
Dakota  
Public Convenience & Necessity

I further move the Commission assess an application fee of \$10,000 in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. / KEM Electric Coop Inc., Lake Isabel Area - Dawson, North Dakota, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-24-325.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-215  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
Brittany Thomas - Morton County  
Public Convenience & Necessity

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission adopt the Order in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., Brittany Thomas – Morton County, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-24-215.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-237  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
Tim Muggli - Grant County  
Public Convenience & Necessity

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission adopt the Order in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., Tim Muggli – Grant County, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-24-237.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. RC-22-428  
Coteau Properties Company  
Bond Release 1, Permit NACT-1801  
Application

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission approve Bond Release No. 1 for Surface Coal Mining Permit NACT-1801, held by the Coteau Properties Company for the Freedom Mine, to release all reclamation liabilities on 197.938 acres of land located in a portion of Section 17, T145N, R87W, Mercer County, effective October 28, 2024, unless a formal hearing is requested, in Coteau Properties Company, Bond Release 1, Permit NACT-1801, Application, Case No. RC-22-428.

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-177  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
2023 Earnings Sharing Refund Plan  
Approval

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I move the Commission adopt the Order in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., 2023 Earnings Sharing Refund Plan, Approval, Case No. PU-24-177.

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.  
Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-181  
Northern States Power / Cass County  
Electric Coop  
Fargo, North Dakota  
Service Area Agreement

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I move the Commission adopt the Order in Northern States Power / Cass County Electric Coop, Fargo, North Dakota, Service Area Agreement, Case No. PU-24-181.

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.  
Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-330  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
Applied Digital Expansion - Dickey  
County  
Public Convenience & Necessity

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I move the Commission reduce the application fee to \$10,000 and issue a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., Applied Digital Expansion - Dickey County, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-24-330.

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.  
Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-23-325  
Cerilon GTL ND Inc.  
Cerilon GTL North Dakota Project -  
Williams County  
Siting Application

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission adopt the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order in Cerilon GTL ND Inc., Cerilon GTL North Dakota Project – Williams County, Siting Application, Case No. PU-23-325.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.  
Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-321  
Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc.  
Milton R. Young Transmission Line  
Reroute - Oliver  
Siting Application

Ms. Fedorchak: I move the Commission adopt the Order in Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc., Milton R. Young Transmission Line Reroute - Oliver, Siting Application, Case No. PU-24-321.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.  
Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-24-311  
Grayson Mill Operating, LLC  
Missouri River Crossing Pipeline-  
Williams&McKenzie  
Siting Application

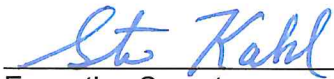
Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission request the Director of the Office of Administrative Hearings designate an Administrative Law Judge to preside as a substantive hearing officer in Grayson Mill Operating, LLC, Missouri River Crossing Pipeline - Williams & McKenzie, Siting Application, Case No. PU-24-311.

Ms. Haugen-Hoffart: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

ATTEST

THE COMMISSION ADJOURNED AT 10:59 A.M.



Executive Secretary



RANDY CHRISTMANN, CHAIR