

SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Minutes

March 25, 2025

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Notice was duly published March 17, 2025, on page 8 of The Daily Record that the regular public meeting of the Commissioners of the Nebraska Public Service Commission would be held on March 25, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission Hearing Room, 300 The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Lincoln.

Chair Commissioner Tim Schram called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Dan Watermeier, and Kevin Stocker present in the Commission Hearing Room. Chair Schram stated that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room and invited the public to address the Commission. No public comment was offered. No announcements were made.

Attention was called to the following proceedings:

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

C-5637: In the Matter of the Application of Andy Reinhardt, Zach Zimmer, and Sandra Messersmith, of Crofton, Nebraska, each seeking authority to receive telecommunications service from the Hartington Exchange of Hartington Telecommunications Co., Inc. Motion made by Commissioner Eric Kamler, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Stocker to enter an Order approving the application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

NATURAL GAS DEPARTMENT

NG-101.1: In the Matter of the Commission, on its own motion, opening an investigatory docket for the purpose of general monitoring of issues regarding the natural gas industry and jurisdictional utilities in Nebraska. Black Hills/Nebraska Gas Utility Company, LLC, and Black Hills Gas Distribution, LLC, d/b/a Black Hills Energy. to enter assessment order CD-9; and

NG-117: In the Matter of Black Hills Nebraska Gas, LLC d/b/a Black Hills Energy, Rapid City, South Dakota, seeking approval to implement a voluntary renewable natural gas and carbon offset program. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler to enter assessment order CD-4. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

E-2514: In the Matter of the Application of Nebraska Public Power District, Columbus, seeking authority to construct, operate and maintain electric transmission lines in Lancaster County. to enter an order granting an extension; and

E-2515: In the Matter of the Application of Nebraska Public Power District, Columbus, seeking authority to construct, operate and maintain electric transmission lines in Lancaster County. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Stocker

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to enter an order granting an extension. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

E-2540: In the Matter of the Application of Nebraska Public Power District, Columbus, seeking authority to construct, operate and maintain electric transmission lines in York County. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler to enter an order granting the application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

NG-101.1: In the Matter of the Commission, on its own motion, opening an investigatory docket for the purpose of general monitoring of issues regarding the natural gas industry and jurisdictional utilities in Nebraska. Black Hills/Nebraska Gas Utility Company, LLC, and Black Hills Gas Distribution, LLC, d/b/a Black Hills Energy. Nichole Mulcahy informed the Commission of the next status meeting on April 29, 2025, at 2:00p.m. in the Commission Hearing Room and via Webex.

NG-101.2: In the Matter of the Commission, on its own motion, opening an investigatory docket for the purpose of general monitoring of issues regarding the natural gas industry and jurisdictional utilities in Nebraska. NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy. Nichole Mulcahy informed the Commission of the next status meeting on April 8, 2025, at 2:00p.m. in the Commission Hearing Room and via Webex.

NG-122: In the Matter of NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, seeking approval of a natural gas general rate increase for Nebraska. Nichole Mulcahy informed the Commission a notice of extension was received from the parties that they have agreed to extend the negotiation deadline to April 4, 2025.

GRAIN DEPARTMENT

GW-22: In the Matter of the Application of Ag Valley Cooperative, Non-Stock, Edison, Nebraska requesting a deductible on its stock insurance higher than \$10,000. to enter an Order granting application;

GW-2137: In the Matter of the Application of Grovijohn Feed & Seed, Inc., Howells, Nebraska requesting a deductible on its stock insurance higher than \$10,000. to enter an Order granting application; and

GW-2156: In the Matter of the Application of Norder Supply, Inc., Hebron, Nebraska requesting a deductible on its stock insurance higher than \$10,000. Motion made by Commissioner Eric Kamler, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Stocker to enter an Order granting application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

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LEGISLATIVE

Discussion on pending legislation.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

R&R 212: In the Matter of the Commission, on its own motion, seeking to amend Title 291, Chapter 8, Grain Warehouse and Grain Dealer Rules and Regulations for general cleanup and updates and to comply with Nebraska Legislative Bill 262 (2024). Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler to enter an Order Adopting Proposed Rules and Issuing Certificate of Adoption. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

The meeting adjourned at 10:14 a.m. with Commissioners Tim Schram, Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier present. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on April 1, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. with an agenda to be available in the office of the Executive Director at 10:00 a.m. on March 31, 2025.



Chair



Executive Director