

LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 14, 2021
OPEN SESSION

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 14, 2021 OPEN SESSION OF THE LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION HELD IN NATCHITOCHES, LOUISIANA. PRESENT WERE CHAIRMAN CRAIG GREENE, VICE CHAIRMAN ERIC SKRMETTA, COMMISSIONER FOSTER CAMPBELL, COMMISSIONER LAMBERT BOISSIERE, COMMISSIONER MIKE FRANCIS, AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY BRANDON FREY.

Open Session of December 14, 2021, convening at 10:02 a.m., and adjourning at 12:25 p.m., the Natchitoches Events Center, 750 Second Street, Natchitoches, Louisiana, with the above-named members of the Commission and Executive Secretary Brandon Frey present.

<p>Ex. 1</p>	<p>Chairman Greene welcomed Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr. of Natchitoches, Louisiana to lead us in prayer and Gary Hobbs, Executive Assistant to Commissioner Campbell to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.</p> <p>Chairman Greene welcomed Mr. Drake Owens, Assistant Vice President of External Affairs at Northwestern State University.</p> <p>Commissioner Campbell announced that Executive Assistant Gary Hobbs would be leaving the Commission.</p> <p>Commissioner Francis welcomed State Representatives Rodney Schamerhorn and Michael “Gabe” Firment to the meeting.</p>
<p>Ex. 2</p>	<p>2022 Proposed Business and Executive Session Schedule</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to accept the proposed 2022 schedule.</p> <p>On motion of Chairman Greene, seconded by Vice Chairman Skrmetta, with Commissioner Boissiere and Commissioner Francis concurring and Commissioner Campbell temporarily absent, the Commission voted to accept the following proposed 2022 Business and Executive Session Schedule:</p> <p>January 25 February 23 (Metairie) March 23 April 29 (Many) May 25 June 22 July 27 August – No Meeting September 14 October 19 November 22 December 14</p>

<p>Ex. 3</p>	<p>I-36175 – Cleco Power LLC, ex parte. In re: 2021 Request to Initiate Integrated Resource Planning Process Pursuant to the General Order (Corrected) in Docket R-30021 Dated April 20, 2012.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to hire an outside consultant.</p> <p>(Exhibit 3 on November 17, 2021 B&E.)</p> <p>On motion of Vice Chairman Skrmetta, seconded by Chairman Greene, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain London Economics for a total budget not to exceed \$73,792.</p>
<p>Ex. 4</p>	<p>I-36181 – Entergy Louisiana, LLC, ex parte. In re: 2021 Request to Initiate Integrated Resource Planning Process Pursuant to the General Order (Corrected) in Docket No. R-30021 Dated April 20, 2012.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to hire an outside consultant.</p> <p>(Exhibit 4 on the November 17, 2021 B&E.)</p> <p>On motion of Vice Chairman Skrmetta, seconded by Chairman Greene, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain London Economics for a total budget not to exceed \$73,792.</p>
<p>Ex. 5</p>	<p>R-31106 – Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte. In re: Rulemaking to study the possible development of financial incentives for the promotion of energy efficiency by jurisdictional electric and gas utilities.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to retain an engineer for District I.</p> <p>On motion of Chairman Greene, seconded by Vice Chairman Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain Linfield, Hunter & Junius, Inc. to assist District I for a total budget not to exceed of \$27,277.32.</p>
<p>Ex. 6</p>	<p>R-31106 – Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte. In re: Rulemaking to study the possible development of financial incentives for the promotion of energy efficiency by jurisdictional electric and gas utilities.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to retain an engineer for District II.</p> <p>On motion of Vice Chairman Skrmetta, seconded by Commissioner Boissiere, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain D. Hicks Consulting to assist District II for a total budget not to exceed of \$15,453.95.</p>
<p>Ex. 7</p>	<p>R-31106 – Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte. In re: Rulemaking to study the possible development of financial incentives for the promotion of energy efficiency by jurisdictional electric and gas utilities.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to retain an engineer for District IV.</p> <p>On motion of Vice Chairman Skrmetta, seconded by Commissioner Francis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain D. Hicks Consulting to assist District IV for a total budget not to exceed of \$27,243.</p>

<p>Ex. 8</p>	<p>R-35595 – Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte. In re: Review of the Schedule of Prescribed Rates and Requirements for Towing and Recovery services in General Order dated August 05, 2016.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on Staff’s Proposed Recommendation for Interim Rate Increase.</p> <p>DEFERRED</p>
<p>Ex. 9</p>	<p>R-36131 – Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte. In re: Determination of Commission Jurisdiction Over the Various Methods of Providing Electricity to Electric Vehicles, and the Infrastructure Associated Therewith.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to hire an outside consultant.</p> <p>(Exhibit 6 on the November 17, 2021 B&E.)</p> <p>Vice Chairman Skrmetta made a motion to retain McQ Group, which was seconded by Commissioner Francis.</p> <p>Commissioner Campbell made a substitute motion to reject McQ Group, which was seconded by Commissioner Boissiere, with Chairman Greene, Vice Chairman Skrmetta and Commissioner Francis opposing, the substitute motion failed.</p> <p>On Vice Chairman Skrmetta’s original motion, seconded by Commissioner Francis, with Chairman Greene concurring, and Commissioner Campbell and Commissioner Boissiere opposing, the Commission voted to retain McQ Group for a budget of \$43,600 in fees and \$1,050 in expenses for total budget not to exceed of \$44,650.</p> <p>Present for Questions/Comments: Rick Demint, Principal of McQ Group</p>
<p>Ex. 10</p>	<p>S-36107 – NTS Communications, LLC d/b/a Vexus Fiber, ex parte. In re: Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on Staff Report and Recommendation.</p> <p>(Exhibit 7 on the November 17, 2021 B&E.)</p> <p>On motion of Vice Chairman Skrmetta, seconded by Commissioner Boissiere, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to accept Staff’s Report and Recommendation filed into the record on October 7, 2021.</p>
<p>Ex. 11</p>	<p>S-36155 – CenturyTel Broadband Services, LLC, ex parte. In re: Application for Issuance of a Certificate of Authority to Provide Telecommunications Service as a Competitive Local Exchange Carrier and Competitive Access Provider and for Transfer of Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Status to Receive Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Auction (Auction 904) Support for Voice and Broadband Services.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on Staff Report and Recommendation.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Francis, seconded by Vice Chairman Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to accept Staff’s Report and Recommendation filed into the record on December 1, 2021.</p>

<p>Ex. 12</p>	<p>S-36156 – The Dow Chemical Company, ex parte. In re: Notice Filing Requesting that the Commission Approve its Request to Decrease Olin’s Leasehold Interest to an Amount Equivalent to Approximately 285 MWs due to Olin Shutting Down a Portion of its Chlor Alkali Capacity at its Plaquemine Facility.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on Dow Chemical Company’s Request.</p> <p>(Exhibit 18 on the November 17, 2021 B&E.)</p> <p>On motion of Vice Chairman Skrmetta, seconded by Commissioner Francis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to accept Dow Chemical Company’s request to decrease Olin’s Leasehold interest to an amount equivalent to approximately 285 MWs due to Olin shutting down a portion of its Chlor Alkali capacity at its Plaquemine facility.</p>
<p>Ex. 13</p>	<p>U-35429 – Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte. In re: Notice of Audit of Energy Efficiency Rate Rider of Entergy Louisiana LLC for the Energy Efficiency Quick Start Program for the Years Ending December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2018.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on Joint Report and Draft Order.</p> <p>On motion of Vice Chairman Skrmetta, seconded by Commissioner Francis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to accept the Joint Report and Draft order filed into the record on December 1, 2021.</p>
<p>Ex. 14</p>	<p>U-35507 – Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte. In re: Audit of Federal Environmental Adjustment Clause Filings of Entergy Louisiana, LLC for the Period of January 2018 through December 2019.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on uncontested Joint Report and Draft Order on Staff Audit Report.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Francis, seconded by Chairman Greene, with Vice Chairman Skrmetta and Commissioner Campbell concurring and Commissioner Boissiere temporarily absent, the Commission voted to accept the Joint Report and Draft Order on Staff Audit Report filed into the record on November 24, 2021.</p>
<p>Ex. 15</p>	<p>U-36002 – Utilities, Inc. of Louisiana, ex parte. In re: Formula Rate Plan Annual Report for the Test year Ending on December 31, 2020.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on uncontested Joint Report and Draft Order.</p> <p>On motion of Chairman Greene, seconded by Commissioner Campbell, with Vice Chairman Skrmetta concurring and Commissioner Boissiere and Commissioner Francis temporarily absent, the Commission voted to accept the uncontested Joint Report and Draft Order filed into the record on November 24, 2021.</p>

<p>Ex. 16</p>	<p>U-36174 – Southwestern Electric Power Company, ex parte. In re: Application for Recovery of Certain Storm Damage Costs Incurred as a Result of Hurricane Laura and Delta and the February 2021 Winter Storm Event.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to hire outside counsel.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Vice Chairman Skrmetta, with Chairman Greene and Commissioner Boissiere concurring and Commissioner Francis temporarily absent, the Commission voted to retain Stone Pigman for a budget of \$220,000 in fees and \$9,000 in expenses for a total budget not to exceed \$229,000.</p>
<p>Ex. 17</p>	<p>U-36174 – Southwestern Electric Power Company, ex parte. In re: Application for Recovery of Certain Storm Damage Costs Incurred as a Result of Hurricane Laura and Delta and the February 2021 Winter Storm Event.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to hire an outside consultant.</p> <p>On motion of Vice Chairman Skrmetta, seconded by Chairman Greene, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain United Professionals Company for a budget of \$135,000 in fees and \$2,000 in expenses for a total budget not to exceed \$137,000.</p>
<p>Ex. 18</p>	<p>X-36093 – Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte. In re: Proceeding to Review the Current Status and Future Plans for Traditional Telephone Services.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to hire an outside consultant.</p> <p>On motion of Vice Chairman Skrmetta, seconded by Commissioner Francis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain Richard/Carson & Associates, LLC for a budget of \$47,250 in fees and \$1,650 in expenses for a total budget not to exceed \$48,900.</p>
<p>Ex. 19</p>	<p>Undocketed – Southwestern Electric Power Company, ex parte. In re: 2021 Request to Initiate Integrated Resource Planning Process Pursuant to the General Order (Corrected) in Docket No. R-30021 dated April 20, 2012.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to hire an outside consultant.</p> <p>(Exhibit 13 on the November 17, 2021 B&E.)</p> <p>On motion of Chairman Greene, seconded by Vice Chairman Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain London Economics for a total budget not to exceed \$73,792.</p>
<p>Ex. 20</p>	<p>Undocketed – Motion to Require Entergy Louisiana, LLC and Cleco Power LLC to provide written notice of withdrawal from membership to MISO under the Requirements of the MISO Transmission Owner Agreement.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on Motion.</p> <p>(Exhibit 12 on the November 17, 2021 B&E.)</p> <p>DEFERRED</p>

<p>Ex. 21</p>	<p>1) Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report from Staff regarding the continued investigation in Docket No. R-34758 into transmission and generation issues occurring during the February 2021 Winter Storm. <p>DEFERRED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report from Veneeth Iyengar, Executive Director of Louisiana Office of Broadband Development and Connectivity, regarding the use of funds under the Granting Unserved Municipalities Broadband Opportunities ("GUMBO"). <p>2) Resolutions</p> <p>3) Discussions</p> <p>Ryan Haynie and Nathan Carbo, on behalf of System Services Broadband, provided information to the Commission regarding outstanding bills owed by Charter Communications. Rob Rieger, with Adams & Reese, provided testimony on behalf of Charter Communications. Vice Chairman Skrmetta asked that an update be provided at the Commission’s January 2022 Business and Executive Session.</p> <p>4) ERSC/OMS/SPP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ratification of LPSC interventions in RTO-related FERC proceedings. <p>On motion of Chairman Greene, seconded by Commissioner Francis and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to ratify Louisiana Public Service Commission interventions filed in FERC proceedings ER22-24 (Intervention with protest), ER22-331 (docless intervention) and ER22-417 (docless intervention).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion and possible vote to ratify votes taken by Commissioner Skrmetta acting as the Commission’s representative on the Board of Directors of the Organization of MISO States. <p>On motion of Chairman Greene, seconded by Commissioner Francis, with Commissioner Campbell and Commissioner Boissiere concurring, and Vice Chairman Skrmetta abstaining, the Commission voted to ratify Vice Chairman Skrmetta’s vote taken on November 29, 2021 as the Louisiana Public Service Commission’s representative to the OMS Board of Directors.</p> <p>5) Directives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Directive to Staff to review and potentially revise Commission General Order dated November 10, 2014. <p>At the request of Commissioner Campbell.</p> <p>Commissioner Campbell directed Staff to open a rulemaking to review and potentially revise the Commission’s General Order dated November 10, 2014, which governs the procedures utilized in the selection of contract employees retained by the Commission, including, but not limited to whether the Commission should adopt specific conflict standards, and the definition of conflict for the purposes of contract employees.</p> <p>There was no opposition.</p>
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<p>Ex. 22</p>	<p>U-35936 – Southwestern Electric Power Company, ex parte. Application for Certification of the Trinity Solar Project and Related Advanced Metering Pilot.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote pursuant to Rule 57 on Uncontested Stipulated Settlement.</p> <p>At the request of Commissioner Campbell.</p> <p>On motion of Chairman Greene, seconded by Vice Chairman Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to assert its original and primary jurisdiction and take the matter up pursuant to Rule 57.</p> <p>On motion of Chairman Greene, seconded by Commissioner Boissiere, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to accept Uncontested Proposed Stipulated Settlement filed into the record on December 13, 2021.</p>
<p>Ex. 23</p>	<p>U-36151 – CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp. d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Arkla, ex parte. In re: Report of Earnings and Return on Equity for the Louisiana Division for the Twelve Months Ending June 30, 2021.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on unopposed Joint Report and Draft Order.</p> <p>At the request of Commissioner Francis.</p> <p>On motion of Chairman Greene, seconded by Commissioner Campbell, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to accept the unopposed Joint Report and Draft Order filed into the record on November 30, 2021.</p>
<p>Ex. 24</p>	<p>U-36152 – CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp. d/b/ CenterPoint Energy Entex, ex parte. In re: Report of Earnings and Return on Equity for the Louisiana Division for the Twelve Months Ending June 30, 2021.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on unopposed Joint Report and Draft Order.</p> <p>At the request of Commissioner Francis.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Francis, seconded by Vice Chairman Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to accept the unopposed Joint Report and Draft Order filed into the record on November 30, 2021.</p> <p>Present for Questions/Comments: Philip May, President and CEO for Entergy Louisiana Bobby Gilliam, counsel for SWEPCO John Shirley, counsel for CLECO Power</p>

Ex. 25	<p>U-36165 – Southwestern Electric Power Company, ex parte. In re: Application for the Certification of the Kingston Area Reliability Project in Accordance with the Commission’s General Order Dated October 10, 2013.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to hire an outside consultant.</p> <p>On motion of Chairman Greene, seconded by Vice Chairman Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain United Professionals Company for a total budget not to exceed \$39,500.</p>
Ex. 26	<p>Undocketed – Update from Staff on MISO’s LRTP Cost Allocation.</p> <p>At the request of Vice Chairman Skrmetta.</p> <p>Lane Sisung, of United Professionals Company, provided an update to the Commission on MISO’s LRTP Cost Allocation.</p>

On motion of Vice Chairman Skrmetta, seconded by Commissioner Francis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to adjourn.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The next Business and Executive Session will be held on Tuesday, January 25, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. at the Galvez Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.