

The meeting was held at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 13, 2013 at the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Suite 4401, Las Vegas, Nevada.

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman	George F. Ogilvie III
Vice Chairman	Berlyn D. Miller
Commissioner	Bob Coffin
Commissioner	J. Brin Gibson
Commissioner	Duncan R. McCoy

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE VIA TELECONFERENCE

Commissioner	Steve Sisolak
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COMMISSIONERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Commissioner	Puoy K. Prensritut
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DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

Senior Deputy Attorney General	Ann C. Pongracz
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COMMISSION STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Executive Director	Jayne Harkins, P.E.
Deputy Executive Director	James D. Salo
Chief of Finance and Administration	Douglas N. Beatty
Assistant Director of Engineering and Operations	Robert D. Reese
Manager, Energy Services	Gail A. Bates
Manager, Natural Resources Group	McClain L. Peterson
Natural Resource Analyst	Jason Thiriot
Natural Resource Analyst	Warren Turkett
Assistant Hydropower Program Manager	Lisa M. Ray
Hydropower Program Specialist	Dana Corkill
Senior Accountant	Gail L. Benton
Senior Energy Accountant	Richard M. Sanders
Senior Energy Accountant	Kalora E. Snyder
Office Manager	Judy K. Atwood
Administrative Assistant II	Melissa Dibert
Administrative Assistant II	Carla Miguel

OTHERS PRESENT; REPRESENTING

Clark County Commissioner	Tom Collins
Commissioner Tom Collins	Chris Due
Overton Power District No. 5	Mendis Cooper
Overton Power District No. 5	Richard Jones
Self	Todd Farlow
Self	Ed Uehling
Self	Tom Wallace

**COLORADO RIVER COMMISSION
OF NEVADA
MEETING OF AUGUST 13, 2013**

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The Colorado River Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman George F. Ogilvie III at 1:05 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

A. Conformance to Open Meeting Law.

Executive Director Jayne Harkins confirmed that the meeting was in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

B. Comments and questions from the public. (No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken.)

Chairman Ogilvie asked if there were any comments or questions from the public. There were none.

C. For Possible Action: Approval of minutes of the June 11, 2013 meeting.

Commissioner McCoy moved for approval of the minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Miller and approved by a unanimous vote of those present. Commissioner Sisolak was not present for the vote.

D. For Possible Action: Selection of Vice Chairman.

Ms. Harkins advised that NRS 538.111 provides that “at the first meeting of the Colorado River Commission of Nevada (Commission) in each calendar year, the Commission shall elect the Vice Chairman for the ensuing calendar year”. Commissioner Marybel Batjer was elected at the February 2013 meeting as Vice Chairman for calendar year 2013. Commissioner Batjer has resigned from the Commission. The Vice Chairman selected will serve Commissioner Batjer’s remaining term for this calendar year.

Commissioner Gibson moved for the selection of Commissioner Berlyn D. Miller as the new Vice Chairman for the Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Coffin and approved by a unanimous vote of those present. Commissioner Sisolak was not present for the vote.

E. For Possible Action: Consideration of and possible action to adopt Colorado River Commission of Nevada Resolution 2013-1, commending Commissioner Tom Collins for his service to the Commission.

Commissioner Sisolak joined the meeting via teleconference at this time.

Ms. Harkins read into the record Colorado River Commission Resolution 2013-1 commending Commissioner Tom Collins for his service to the Colorado River Commission of Nevada. A copy of the resolution is attached and made a part of the minutes. (See Attachment A.)

The Commissioners expressed their appreciation and gratitude for Commissioner Collins' active participation, open and approachable personality, wisdom and experience, and for his dedication to the people of the State of Nevada and the Colorado River Commission of Nevada.

Commissioner Coffin moved for approval of Resolution 2013-1. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gibson and approved by a unanimous vote.

F. *For Possible Action:* Consideration of and possible action to approve Contract No. SA-13-01 for Transmission and Distribution System Support Services between PAR Electrical Contractors, Inc. and the Commission.

Assistant Director of Engineering and Operations, Robert D. Reese, provided a summary of the contract for Transmission and Distribution System Support Services between PAR Electrical Contractors, Inc. and the Commission.

The Commission owns, operates and maintains a high-voltage transmission and distribution system and is responsible for the operation and maintenance of six additional substations owned by the Southern Nevada Water Authority and three owned by the Clark County Water Reclamation District.

Experience has shown that most of the operation and maintenance functions that are performed regularly or on a frequent basis can be performed efficiently and economically by Commission staff. However, certain functions can be more effectively performed utilizing the services of support contractors. These functions are: (1) infrequent work requiring specialized tools, equipment or expertise; (2) emergency restoration work requiring the availability of an abundance of manpower and equipment; and (3) small improvement or replacement projects that require a short-term increase in manpower and equipment.

In order to replace the previous support contracts that were expiring, a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Transmission and Distribution System Support Services—Contract No. SA-13-01 was issued on June 18, 2013. The RFP was posted on the Commission's website and Nevada State Purchasing Division's website, advertised in the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, and sent to various support services companies directly. On the proposal response date, July 9, 2013, one proposal was received from PAR Electrical Contractors, Inc. (PAR).

The contract for Commission consideration today is with PAR and is an enabling type contract that allows the Commission's operation and maintenance staff to receive support from PAR on an as-needed basis for certain tasks that cannot be efficiently performed with existing Commission personnel.

The contract proposes to retain the services of PAR for a contract term of four years, anticipated to begin August 13, 2013. Work under the contract will be authorized by Commission staff as needed through the development and execution of written task

authorizations. The total combined value of task authorizations under this contract shall not exceed \$250,000.00 over the term of the contract.

Staff believes PAR is well qualified and fully capable of providing the support services to the Commission and recommended approval of this contract.

Commissioner Gibson stated that he appreciated the use of the RFP process to obtain bids for this contract and asked Mr. Reese why it was, in his opinion, the RFP only received one bid for these services.

Mr. Reese stated that he had initially expected more responses from qualified vendors; however, a variety of factors including current staffing levels and previous commitments to other projects may have kept some vendors from applying.

Commissioner McCoy moved for approval of Contract No. SA-13-01 for Transmission and Distribution System Support Services between PAR Electrical Contractors, Inc. and the Commission. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Miller and approved by a unanimous vote.

G. For Possible Action: Consideration of and possible action to ratify the Petition for Leave to Intervene filed in Docket 13-07006 on behalf of the Commission on July 22, 2013 in the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) proceeding considering the Application of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy (NV Energy) to provide Distribution Only Service (DOS) to the City of North Las Vegas.

Manager of Energy Services, Gail A. Bates, gave a summary of the Petition for Leave to Intervene on Docket 13-07006 filed on behalf of the Commission.

The Commission delivers energy to certain electrical loads of the Southern Nevada Water Authority, the Las Vegas Valley Water District, the City of Las Vegas, the City of Henderson, and the Clark County Water Reclamation District (collectively, CRC's Network Customers) in accordance with the Commission's authority under NRS 538.181. In order to fulfill its delivery obligation, the Commission has entered into DOS Agreements with NV Energy and each of the affected customers listed above. These DOS Agreements allow the Commission to purchase distribution service from NV Energy at rates, terms and conditions that are approved by the PUCN.

On May 12, 2013, the Commission approved the DOS Agreement among the Commission, NV Energy, and the City of North Las Vegas. On July 1, 2013, NV Energy filed the DOS Agreement with the PUCN for approval. The Commission filed a Petition for Leave to Intervene on July 22, 2013 to protect its interest in the filing and participate, as necessary, in the regulatory proceedings. The deadline to intervene in the filing was July 31, 2013. Staff recommended that the Commission ratify the intervention in PUCN Docket No. 13-07006.

Chairman Ogilvie stated for the record that filing for this intervention does not mean that the Commission will take action against the filing, but that it gives the Commission the opportunity to be a part of the proceedings and to take action if the need were to arise.

Commissioner Gibson stated for the record that his law firm, Lionel Sawyer and Collins, represents the City of North Las Vegas in an unrelated matter. He is not involved in that representation and therefore does not see a conflict of interest in voting on this item and will not abstain from the vote.

Commissioner Coffin moved to ratify the Petition for Leave to Intervene filed in Docket 13-07006 on behalf of the Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gibson and approved by a unanimous vote.

H. *For Possible Action:* Consideration of and possible action to ratify the Petition for Leave to Intervene filed in Docket 13-05056 on behalf of the Commission on July 13, 2013 in the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada proceeding considering the merger application of Nevada Power Company and Sierra Pacific Power Company.

Ms. Bates gave a summary of the Petition for Leave to Intervene on Docket 13-05056 filed on behalf of the Commission.

On May 31, 2013, Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy (Nevada Power) and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy (Sierra Pacific) filed with the PUCN an application for approval to consolidate Nevada Power and Sierra Pacific into a single jurisdictional utility, transfer and modify Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity to reflect the consolidated utility's new legal name of NV Energy Operating Company, and consolidate generation assets. The Joint Applicants state that the need to consolidate the legal and regulatory structures of Sierra Pacific and Nevada Power is driven by the completion of the One Nevada Transmission Line or "ON Line," which is scheduled to be placed in service at the end of 2013. The ON Line will provide a direct interconnection between the Sierra and Nevada Power electrical systems that will allow for joint dispatch of capacity and energy resources across the ON Line, and the flow of electrons across a larger transmission footprint.

The merging of the two Nevada utilities and the inclusion of the ON Line project in the rate base of the merged utility has the potential to impact the transmission and distribution rates of some of the Commission's customers. In addition, the Commission needs to assure that the merging of the two utilities will not impact the pass through of the benefits of Hoover Schedule B power to the residential customers as required by NAC 538.540. Much of the information that the Commission will need to assess the impact of the merger of the two utilities on its customers is expected to be filed later this year. To preserve its right to receive and analyze this data and participate in future regulatory proceedings as necessary, the Commission filed a Petition for Leave to Intervene in Docket No. 13-05056 on July 13, 2013, the intervention deadline.

Staff recommended that the Commission ratify the intervention in PUCN Docket No. 13-05056.

Chairman Ogilvie stated for the record that filing for this intervention does not mean that the Commission will take action against the filing, but that it gives the Commission the opportunity to be a part of the proceedings and to take action if the need were to arise.

Chairman Ogilvie stated for the record that his law firm, McDonald Carano Wilson, represents potential interveners also filing on this docket item. He is not representing any of the interveners, however, out of caution he will abstain from voting on this item.

Commissioner McCoy moved to ratify the Petition for Leave to Intervene filed in Docket 13-05056 on behalf of the Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Coffin and approved by a unanimous vote of the remaining Commissioners. Chairman Ogilvie abstained from voting on this item.

I. *For Possible Action:* Consideration of and possible action to authorize Staff to file a Petition for Leave to Intervene in Docket 13-07021 on behalf of the Commission by August 14, 2013 in the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada proceeding considering the proposed Joint Application of Nevada Power Company and Sierra Pacific Power Company (referenced together as NV Energy, Inc.), and MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company (MidAmerican), for approval of a merger of NV Energy, Inc. with MidAmerican.

Ms. Bates gave a summary of the Petition for Leave to Intervene on Docket 13-07021 to be filed on behalf of the Commission.

On July 17, 2013, NV Energy, Inc. (NVE) and MidAmerican (with its wholly owned subsidiaries Silver Merger Sub, Inc. (Merger Sub) and NVE Holdings, LLC (LLC)) (together, the Joint Applicants) filed an application with the PUCN to proceed with the merger of NVE with Merger Sub. Upon completion of the merger, NVE will become an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of MidAmerican. The Joint Applicants state that “the Proposed Transaction will result in no adverse alterations in service for the customers of the Nevada Utilities who will continue to receive electric and natural gas service that is safe, reliable and at reasonable and predictable rates.” The Joint Applicants also state that the merger between NVE and MidAmerican should proceed independently from the application filed by the Nevada Utilities in Docket No. 13-05056 seeking approval to consolidate the Nevada Utilities balancing area authorities, corporate structures and retail rates.

Because of the interrelated nature of the transactions proposed by the Nevada Utilities, the Commission is concerned that some of the issues in Docket No. 13-05056 (merger of Nevada Power and Sierra Pacific) could bleed over into Docket No. 13-07021. To preserve its right to analyze the data in Docket No. 13-07021 and participate in future regulatory proceedings as necessary to protect the Commission’s customers from unreasonable changes to the rates, terms and conditions in the services they purchase

from Nevada Power today, Staff seeks authorization from the Commission to file a Petition for Leave to Intervene in Docket No. 13-07021 by August 14, 2013.

Staff recommended that the Commission authorize the filing in PUCN Docket No. 13-07021.

Chairman Ogilvie stated for the record that filing for this intervention does not mean that the Commission will take action against the filing, but that it gives the Commission the opportunity to be a part of the proceedings and to take action if the need were to arise.

Chairman Ogilvie stated for the record that his law firm, McDonald Carano Wilson, represents potential interveners also filing on this docket item. He is not representing any of the interveners, however, out of caution he will abstain from voting on this item.

Commissioner Gibson moved to authorize Staff to file a Petition for Leave to Intervene in Docket 13-07021 on behalf of the Commission. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Miller and approved by a unanimous vote of the remaining Commissioners. Chairman Ogilvie abstained from voting on this item.

J. *For Possible Action:* Consideration of and possible action to ratify the Motions to Intervene filed in Docket Nos. ER13-1605-000 and ER13-1607-000 on July 1, 2013, and in Docket No. EC13-113-000 on July 30, 2013, on behalf of the Commission in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) proceedings considering requests of Nevada Power Company and Sierra Pacific Power Company to integrate their operating companies and revise the transmission and ancillary services rates and other terms and conditions in their Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT).

Ms. Bates gave a summary of the Motions to Intervene on Docket Nos. ER13-1605-000, ER13-1607-000 and EC13-113-000 filed on behalf of the Commission.

On May 31, 2013, NV Energy, Inc., on behalf of its public utility subsidiaries, Nevada Power Company (Nevada Power) and Sierra Pacific Power Company (Sierra Pacific), (collectively NV Energy) made three interrelated filings with FERC as follows:

1. In Docket No. EC13-113-000, NV Energy, Sierra Pacific and Nevada Power, requested FERC authorization for an internal corporate reorganization of Sierra Pacific and Nevada Power. The reorganization is part of a proposal to integrate two operating companies in northern and southern Nevada into a single operating company.
2. In Docket No. ER13-1605-000, consistent with the corporate reorganization, NV Energy filed proposed transmission rates and revised ancillary service schedules for single-system transmission service.

3. In Docket No. ER13-1607-000, consistent with the corporate reorganization, NV Energy filed proposed revisions to its OATT to reflect the consolidation of Nevada Power and Sierra Pacific, their respective transmission systems and implementation of a single-system rate.

The Commission and certain of its customers purchase transmission and ancillary services from NV Energy, Inc. under the rates, terms, and conditions contained in the OATT. In December of 2012, the Commission authorized Staff to intervene in FERC Docket No. ER13-255-000. In that docket, NV Energy sought an 84% increase in transmission and ancillary service rates in the OATT. That proceeding continues to proceed towards settlement. Now, in Docket No. ER13-1605-000, NV Energy proposes to increase transmission and ancillary service rates by 151% over the current rates. Further, in Docket No. ER13-1607-000, NV Energy proposed certain modifications to the non-rate terms and conditions contained in the OATT which have the potential to limit retail access programs in the state of Nevada, including the Commission's ability to provide services to some of its customers under NRS 704.787.

On July 1, 2013, the intervention deadline, the Commission and the Southern Nevada Water Authority filed a joint "Motion to Consolidate, Protest, Request for Maximum Suspension, Institution of a Section 206 Proceeding, Hearing, and Settlement Judge Procedures" in Docket Nos. ER13-1605-000 and ER13-1607-000. On July 30, 2013, the Commission filed an intervention in Docket No. EC13-113-000.

Staff recommended that the Commission ratify the interventions filed in FERC Docket Nos. ER13-1605-000, ER13-1607-000, and EC13-113-000.

Chairman Ogilvie stated for the record that his law firm, McDonald Carano Wilson, represents potential interveners also filing on this docket item. He is not representing any of the interveners, however, out of caution he will abstain from voting on this item.

Commissioner Gibson moved to ratify the Motions to Intervene filed in Docket Nos. ER13-1605-000 and ER13-1607-000 on July 1, 2013, and in Docket No. EC13-113-000 on July 30, 2013, on behalf of the Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Coffin and approved by a unanimous vote of the remaining Commissioners. Chairman Ogilvie abstained from voting on this item.

K. *For Possible Action:* Consideration of and possible action to authorize Staff to file a Motion to Intervene by September 10, 2013, in Docket No. EC13-128-000 on behalf of the Commission in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission proceeding considering the "Silver Merger Sub" application of Nevada Power Company and Sierra Pacific Power Company to merge with MidAmerican.

Ms. Bates gave a summary of the Motion to Intervene on Docket No. EC13-128-000 to be filed on behalf of the Commission.

On July 16, 2013, Silver Merger Sub, Inc., NV Energy, Inc., Nevada Power Company, and Sierra Pacific Power Company (collectively, Applicants) filed a merger application with the FERC. When the merger is complete, NV Energy will be a direct, wholly owned subsidiary of MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company (MidAmerican). The Applicants have requested that the Commission issue an order authorizing the Transaction on or before December 19, 2013.

The Commission is already an intervener in two separate FERC Dockets involving transmission and ancillary service rate increases proposed by NVEnergy. Staff is uncertain to what extent the merger between NV Energy and MidAmerican could have additional adverse consequences to the Commission and its customers. Accordingly, Staff seeks the approval of the Commission to file a Motion to Intervene to protect the interest of the Commission and its customers in the filing and participate, as necessary, in the regulatory proceedings.

Staff recommended that the Commission authorize the filing of a Motion to Intervene in FERC Docket No. EC13-128-000.

Chairman Ogilvie stated for the record that his law firm, McDonald Carano Wilson, represents potential interveners also filing on this docket item. He is not representing any of the interveners, however, out of caution he will abstain from voting on this item.

Commissioner McCoy moved to authorize Staff to file a Motion to Intervene by September 10, 2013, in Docket No. EC13-128-000 on behalf of the Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Coffin and approved by a unanimous vote of the remaining Commissioners. Chairman Ogilvie abstained from voting on this item.

L. *For Possible Action:* Consideration of and possible action to approve a contract for professional economic consulting services between independent contractor Exeter Associates, Inc. and the Commission.

Ms. Bates gave a summary of the contract for professional economic consulting services between Exeter Associates, Inc. (Exeter) and the Commission.

The Commission is an intervener in five open dockets before the FERC and three open dockets before the PUCN. All of the dockets are related to regulatory filings that have been made in whole or in part by NV Energy. The Commission has intervened in these dockets because they all have the potential to impact the Commission and/or its customers. The amount of information that has been filed in these dockets for review by the interveners is daunting and the Commission does not have sufficient Staff resources to adequately review, and respond to, the information. Nor does the Staff have a significant amount of expertise providing expert testimony in regulatory proceedings.

Exeter has expertise in utility rate-making and cost of service matters that are unique to the State of Nevada. Exeter has also participated in numerous regulatory proceedings

cases before the PUCN including the presentation of expert testimony on behalf of its clients. In the past, the Commission contracted with Exeter to provide consulting services on several technical and analytical matters related to the Commission's energy purchasing efforts.

The proposed contract with Exeter has a two year term with a maximum expenditure of \$200,000.00 over the term. The contract is enabling in nature which will allow Staff to direct Exeter's work efforts as needed.

Staff recommended that the Commission enter into a contract with Exeter to provide the needed technical expertise to participate in the various dockets.

Commissioner Sisolak asked a question regarding Question 5 on Page 5 of the contract contained in the briefing which states, "Does the arrangement with the independent contractor contemplate continuing or recurring work (even if the services are seasonal, part-time, or of short duration)?" Mr. Sisolak asked if that wording meant that the Commission would not be working with Exeter in the future.

Ms. Bates stated that the wording used refers to the fact that Staff does not currently expect a need to contract with Exeter beyond the two year term of the contract.

Vice Chairman Miller moved for approval of a contract for professional economic consulting services between independent contractor Exeter Associates, Inc. and the Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McCoy and approved by a unanimous vote.

M. *For Possible Action:* Consideration of and possible action to authorize the Executive Director to execute and deliver two Quit Claim Deeds, in substantively the same form, from the Commission on behalf of the State of Nevada to Clark County, Nevada, to transfer all remaining interest in land adjacent to the Colorado River, in Laughlin, Nevada, each in compliance with the legislative directive in subsection 1 of section 11 of Chapter 427, *Statutes of Nevada 2007* [Senate Bill 301 of the 74th Regular Session of the Nevada Legislature].

Ms. Harkins stated that the Quit Claim Deeds referenced under Agenda item M will not be considered for action at this Commission meeting. The Commission continues to work with Clark County and the Division of State Lands to correct the Deeds previously submitted in 2007 on certain parcels of land in Laughlin, Nevada. The item will be reintroduced at a future Commission meeting for consideration when all parties agree to the terms and language of the Deeds.

Commissioner Coffin asked Staff to provide additional background information on the land and the issues at hand with the Quit Claim Deeds referenced under the agenda item when reintroduced.

N. *For Information Only: Notification of receipt of the Government Finance Officers Association's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the Commission's annual financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012.*

Ms. Harkins gave a summary of the Government Finance Officers Association's Certificate of Achievement.

Each year, the Commission submits its annual financial report to the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for review and evaluation as part of the GFOA's achievement program. The report is subjected to a review by two Special Review Committee members. Both committee members must recommend award of the certificate. The review consists of evaluation in a number of categories including:

1. Reporting in conformity with General Accepted Accounting Principles.
2. Demonstration of compliance with finance-related legal and contractual provisions.
3. Completeness and clarity of a letter of transmittal and introductory section.
4. Inclusion of a complete and clear statistical section.
5. Use of standardized terminology and formatting conventions.
6. Disclosure thoroughness and detail sufficiency.
7. Minimization of ambiguities and potentials for misleading inference.
8. Cohesiveness and internal consistency.
9. Implementation of prior year comments and suggestions for improvement.
10. Readability.

Staff was very pleased to inform the Commission that the annual financial report again received the certificate. The Commission has received the award for its financial report every year since 1977.

Ms. Harkins extended congratulations to Chief of Finance and Administration, Douglas N. Beatty and the accounting Staff including: Senior Accountant, Gail L. Benton; Senior Energy Accountant, Richard M. Sanders; and Senior Energy Accountant, Kalora E. Snyder.

Chairman Ogilvie quoted the words of the GFOA saying, "The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management."

Speaking on behalf of the Commission, Chairman Ogilvie commended Mr. Beatty and the accounting Staff on a job well done. Since the Commission has received this award every year since 1977, the work that goes into receiving it can sometimes be considered "old hat". Chairman Ogilvie thanked Mr. Beatty for his professionalism and dedication to the duties and responsibilities of his position with the Commission.

Commissioner Coffin stated that this award speaks highly to the fact that Mr. Beatty has strived to stay above the expectations of his position and that receiving this peer-reviewed honor reflects Mr. Beatty's dedication to providing the Commission with exemplary work under ever changing demands.

O. *For Information Only: Status update on the hydrologic conditions, drought, and climate of the Colorado River Basin, Nevada's consumptive use of Colorado River water, and other developments on the Colorado River.*

Warren Turkett, Natural Resource Analyst, provided a report on the following:

- Unregulated Inflow into Lake Powell
- Storage Conditions
- Lake Powell End of Month Elevations
- Lake Mead Elevation 2000 – 2013
- Lake Mead End of Month Projections
- Precipitation – Colorado River Basin
- Monthly Precipitation for June 2013
- Record of Precipitation, Las Vegas, NV
- U.S. Drought Monitor
- U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook
- Water Use in Southern Nevada
- Lake Mead Temperature

A copy of the report is attached and made a part of the minutes. (See Attachment B.)

Commissioner Coffin asked if the data contained in the Lake Mead Temperature slide could be construed to mean that the overall temperature of Lake Mead is increasing; and if an increase in overall lake temperature could cause an increase in evaporation.

Mr. Turkett stated the current data shows a similar temperature striation to previous data collected. The temperature mapping appears to be different because of a decrease in elevation. While the elevation has decreased, the temperature striation has stayed consistent. The different appearance of the map can be attributed to the fact that lower levels of the lake, the coldest section of Lake Mead, is shrinking as the water comes down in elevation. Despite the lowering of the water, the surface temperatures have remained consistent in the lake as illustrated in the graph.

Chairman Ogilvie asked if that meant that there is less overall cold water in the lake.

Mr. Turkett stated that is correct.

Commissioner Coffin asked if the temperature recorded at the penstocks, taken when the water is brought into the dam's power plant, have changed in recent readings.

Mr. Turkett stated he did not have the data on hand at this meeting, and it could be researched and added to the Hydrologic Update Report presented at a future Commission meeting.

Chairman Ogilvie asked, in regards to the future release from Lake Powell of 7.48 million acre-feet of water instead of the anticipated 8.23 million acre-feet, if any foreseeable circumstance could change the scheduled release back to the 8.23 million acre-feet originally planned.

Mr. Turkett stated that under the current conditions a change of that nature would be very unlikely to take place. Based on all current data available, there appears to be a 100% probability of the 7.48 million acre-feet release as illustrated in the Lake Powell End of Month Elevations slide from the Hydrologic Update presentation.

P. Comments and questions from the public. (No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken.)

Chairman Ogilvie asked if there were any comments or questions from the public.

Todd Farlow, of 240 North 19th Street, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101, addressed the Commission. Mr. Farlow stated that the top ten feet of lake level, along with the lower twenty feet of lake level, are considered dead zones that cannot sustain life. Mr. Farlow stated that he had heard during a news report that a treaty in place between the United States and Mexico will allow Mexico to bank water in Lake Mead. A question was asked as to whether this water banking in Lake Mead would affect the lake levels enough to expand this central layer of the lake.

Mr. Farlow also asked if an increase in lake levels would produce more electricity from Hoover Dam, or if there are governors on the turbines to limit electricity production even in times of greater water pressure and lake levels in Lake Mead.

Chairman Ogilvie stated that Mexico's water banking has increased the water levels in Lake Mead. More water could produce more electricity, and the turbines used to generate the power do have governors to control the flow of water through the power plant at Hoover Dam.

Mr. Farlow asked when a noticeable change in lake levels would take place after the banking begins, whether it has been noticed at this time or is expected to be recorded in the future.

Ms. Harkins stated that Mexico began storing water several years ago in Lake Mead. The combined banking of Mexico's water along with the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA), the Metropolitan Water District (MWD), and the Central Arizona Project (CAP) is ten feet.

Mr. Farlow stated that if Mexico was to request its stored water that would cause a ten foot decrease in lake level at Lake Mead and create problems for the lake.

Chairman Ogilvie stated that Mexico is not able to make such a demand for immediate water release under the agreement with the United States. The ten feet referenced by Mr. Farlow is actually a combined total for four separate entities, Mexico, SNWA, MWD, and CAP; therefore, even if such a request were possible, the lake would not decrease by a total of ten feet.

Chairman Ogilvie asked if there were any other questions from the public.

Mr. Ed Uehling, of Las Vegas, Nevada, addressed the Commission and asked what the current plans are involving the upstream release of 7.4 million acre-feet from Lake Powell. Recent information indicates that Lake Powell will only receive a little over 4 million acre-feet this year in water. Mr. Uehling also stated that he believes the lake level in Lake Mead decreased by 5 million acre-feet last year. Mr. Uehling asked if a plan is in place to deal with a shortage of water, or if everyone is waiting to see what happens and then try to make a plan later to start using or release less water. Mr. Uehling stated that he has heard Patricia Mulroy with the SNWA state that lake levels are low which is causing poor water conditions. The Hydrologic Update report shows that last year, 220,000 acre-feet of water was used, saving about 80,000 acre-feet, but the saved water was not banked, it was sent downstream to California, whom he believes to be the largest desert water waster. Mr. Uehling asked if the Commission was aware that this water was sent to California to grow alfalfa in the desert as opposed to being saved.

Chairman Ogilvie thanked Mr. Uehling for his comments.

Chairman Ogilvie asked if any additional members of the public wished to address the Commission. There were none.

Q. Comments and questions from the Commission members.

Chairman Ogilvie asked if there were any comments or questions from the Commission members. There were none.

R. Selection of the next possible meeting date.
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The September Commission Meeting is tentatively scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 10, 2013, at the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Suite 4401, Las Vegas, Nevada.

S. Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Jayne Harkins, P.E., Executive Director

APPROVED:

George F. Ogilvie III, Chairman