

# **Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee**

## 65th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS MARY MCNALLY--Chair TOM RICHMOND SCOTT SALES CYNTHIA WOLKEN HOUSE MEMBERS DEREK SKEES--Vice Chair LAURIE BISHOP ZAC PERRY DANIEL ZOLNIKOV COMMITTEE STAFF TREVOR GRAFF, Lead Staff JAMESON WALKER, Staff Attorney NADINE SPENCER, Secretary

# **MINUTES LOG**

September 29, 2017 Room 152, Capitol Building Helena, Montana

<u>Please note</u>: This document is a Minutes Log and provides a notation of the time elapsed between the beginning of the meeting and the time at which the item was presented or discussed, a motion was made, or a vote was taken. The narrative presented here is provided only as a guide to the audio or video record of the meeting. The official discussion, motion, or vote is available on the audio or video archive of this meeting. The Legislature does not prepare a transcript of meeting activities. The time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

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# **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

SEN. MARY MCNALLY, Chair REP. DEREK SKEES, Vice Chair

SEN. TOM RICHMOND

REP. LAURIE BISHOP REP. ZAC PERRY REP. DANIEL ZOLNIKOV

## **COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED**

SEN. SCOTT SALES SEN. CYNTHIA WOLKEN

# STAFF PRESENT

TREVOR GRAFF, Lead Staff JAMESON WALKER, Staff Attorney SONJA NOWAKOWSKI, Director NADINE SPENCER, Secretary

# VISITORS' LIST (Attachment 1)

# AGENDA (Attachment 2)

# **COMMITTEE ACTIONS**

The Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee (ETIC):

- Adopted the ETIC work plan;
- Adopted the minutes log from July 31;
- Voted to send the questions drafted by staff and discussed by the committee to Montana Dakota Utilities regarding natural gas customer choice;
- Agreed to create framework for a bill to define long-term contract for Qualifying Facilities.

# CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

00:00:01 Sen. McNally called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. The secretary called the roll. (Attachment 3) Sen. Sales and Sen. Wolken were excused.

# ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

## ETIC Final Work Plan

00:01:02	Sonja Nowakowski, director, Office of Research and Policy Analysis, Legislative Services Division (LSD), said ETIC members received a copy of the final interim
	committee work plan. (Exhibit 1)
00:02:54	Ms. Nowakowski said the ETIC has dedicated .05 FTE to a programmatic review. She said the committee needs to select what subject, from the Public Service Commission (PSC) list (Exhibit 2), or other PSC issues, it wants to have
	a programmatic review completed on.
00:03:31	Ms. Nowakowski said committee members received a memo from the PSC on the regulation of small water utilities in Montana, with its recommendations, and
	is requesting that the ETIC study the issue during the interim and provide direction for possible legislation. (Exhibit 3)
00:03:53	Ms. Nowakowski said committee members received copies of public comment from stakeholders on the regulation of small water utilities (Exhibit 4) and
	information from the Montana Consumer Counsel. (Exhibit 5) She said the ETIC needs to decide what it wants to do for its program review.
00:04:47	Ms. Nowakowski discussed potential travel for the May 17-18, 2018 committee
	meeting. She said the committee received a memo from Susan Fox, executive
	director, LSD, outlining potential budget reduction plans for all interim committees (Exhibit 6) and provided an update of the ETIC budget.
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Public comment

- 00:17:08 Debra Wolfe, Holmberg Village Water Company LLC.
- 00:19:02 Justin Kraske, chief legal counsel, PSC (see Exhibit 3).

Committee questions and discussion

- 00:26:19 Sen. Richmond asked Mr. Kraske about the definition for a small water utility.
- 00:27:11 Sen. Richmond asked Mr. Kraske if two customers would be considered a regulated utility.
- 00:28:05 Sen. Richmond asked Mr. Kraske about the number of small water utilities in the state.
- 00:28:49 Rep. Skees asked Mr. Brown if small water users create a limited liability company (LLC) to fund and pay for wells and sewers or if they pay for the wells and sewers and then create an LLC to run it.
- 00:29:54 Rep. Skees asked Ms. Wolfe how the water and sewer systems were funded for the Holmberg Village Water Company LLC.
- 00:30:25 Rep. Skees asked Ms. Wolfe how the LLC is managed.
- 00:31:14 Rep. Skees asked Ms. Wolfe about the procedure for water users to contact the LLC to address any problems or concerns.
- 00:32:09 Sen. McNally opened discussion on the work plan (Exhibit 7) and said she recommends taking staff time away from the study of renewable energy credits and moving it to programmatic review.
- 00:33:56 Rep. Bishop asked staff about the FTE and what time it allows.
- 00:35:33 Sen. McNally said there is a breakdown of FTE included in the material provided.
- 00:35:51 Rep. Skees said he agrees with Sen. McNally's recommendation.
- 00:36:12 Ms. Nowakowski asked if the committee wants to do a program review only on small water users or if it wants to include additional topics. Sen. McNally said she recommends including a program review on supply resource planning and integrated resource planning.
- 00:37:31 Rep. Skees asked Sen. McNally about the topics for the program review. Sen. McNally said the review on supply resource planning and integrated resource planning are interconnected and would be considered as one review. Ms. Nowakowski provided additional information.
- 00:39:14 Rep. Skees asked staff about the effect of taking FTE away from the study of renewable energy credits.
- 00:40:03 Rep. Skees asked if additional items can be added to the programmatic review during the interim. Sen. McNally said yes, but it will be limited by the amount of FTE.

## <u>Motion</u>

00:40:45 Rep. Skees moved to adopt the final work plan with the two program reviews as discussed.

# **Discussion on the Motion**

00:40:51	Sen. McNally
00:40:56	Rep. Skees
00:40:58	Ms. Nowakowski

# Vote

00:41:14 The motion carried unanimously by voice vote of those present and voting.

# Adoption of July meeting minutes

## Motion/Vote

00:41:42 Rep. Skees moved to adopt the minutes from July 31. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote of those present and voting.

## VERIZON COVERAGE IN RURAL MONTANA

00:42:20 Milt Doumit, vice president Government Affairs, Verizon Communication, provided information on the Verizon network in rural areas and discussed rural roaming issues for its customers in Montana.

00:49:24 Mike Kilgore, CEO, Nemont Communications, gave a PowerPoint presentation on Nemont, wireless coverage in northeast Montana, and coverage for Verizon customers. (Exhibit 8)

Public comment None

## Committee questions and discussions

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01:07:08	Rep. Skees asked Mr. Kilgore if there are other telephone co-ops.
01:07:37	Rep. Zolnikov asked Mr. Kilgore about roaming costs.
01:10:43	Rep. Zolnikov asked Mr. Doumit about Verizon's loss in revenue due to roaming
	costs.
01:11:57	Rep. Zolnikov asked Mr. Doumit about Verizon's customer approach.
01:14:33	Rep. Zolnikov asked Mr. Doumit about customer contracts.
01:17:48	Rep. Skees asked Mr. Doumit if Verizon is investing in rural cellphone towers in Montana.
01:20:41	Rep. Skees asked Mr. Doumit about the primary entity that regulates Verizon.
01:22:14	Sen. McNally asked Mr. Doumit about the status of the 919 customers in
	Montana that will be losing their Verizon service.
01:24:59	Rep. Bishop asked Mr. Doumit about future roaming contracts and coverage in rural areas.
01:28:09	Rep. Bishop asked Mr. Doumit to compare what Verizon customers were paying under their old plan versus a new plan.
01:31:58	Rep. Zolnikov asked Mr. Doumit about Verizon's expansion into rural areas of Montana.
01:35:14	Rep. Zolnikov commented on streamlining Montana's permitting process and asked Mr. Doumit when the contract change will happen.
01:37:42	Sen. McNally asked Mr. Doumit to provide information about Verizon's quality of service and if there has been a change in the level of service.
01:39:48	Mr. Kilgore commented on changes in the level of service.

## EQC UPDATE

01:43:15 Joe Kolman, director, Legislative Environmental Policy Office, LSD, gave an update from the Environmental Quality Council meeting on September 27-28.

Committee questions and discussion None

01:49:06 Recess

01:58:54 Reconvene

# COLSTRIP UPDATES

- 01:59:34 Mike Milburn, chief of staff, Department of Justice (DOJ), provided an update on the Puget Sound Energy rate case with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission.
- 02:03:50 Steve Secrist, senior vice president, general counsel, and corporate secretary, Puget Sound Energy, discussed the rate case and PSE's commitment to Colstrip and the decommissioning and remediation of Colstrip Units 1 and 2 and Units 3 and 4.
- 02:08:09 Mary Craigle, director, Data Initiatives and Special Projects, Department of Labor and Industry, provided an update on the grant awarded to the department for workforce planning and worker retraining to assist the community of Colstrip.
- Public comment
- 02:12:58 Diego Rivas, senior policy advisor, Northwest Energy Coalition.
- 02:19:43 Jeff Fox, Montana policy manager, Renewable Northwest.
- 02:24:28 Rep. Jim Keane, HD 73.
- 02:27:10 Mark Reller, Bonneville Power Administration.
- 02:27:59 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center.

Committee questions and discussion

- 02:32:48 Rep. Perry asked Mr. Milburn about the \$80,000 appropriation for the DOJ to participate in the rate case.
- 02:34:34 Rep. Bishop asked Mr. Milburn about the \$80,000 appropriation and participation by the DOJ in meeting the requirements of HB 22 (2017).
- 02:40:55 Rep. Bishop asked Mr. Milburn to provide a detailed account from the Attorney General's Office of its actions since the passage of HB 22 that it considers directly related to the direction from the legislature to intervene.
- 02:44:01 Rep. Zolnikov asked Mr. Milburn about the testimony given by the Attorney General's Office. Mr. Milburn said the DOJ did accomplish its goal and redirected the guestion to Jon Bennion, DOJ.
- 02:53:41 Rep. Zolnikov asked Mr. Bennion why testimony was given after the deadline.
- 02:55:07 Rep. Zolnikov asked Mr. Bennion about the testimony.
- 02:57:42 Rep. Zolnikov said PSE did everything it said it would do and that he appreciates the testimony that was submitted by the Northwest Energy Coalition.
- 02:58:48 Rep. Skees asked Mr. Milburn about the authority that was granted to the DOJ in HB 22 and SB 338 (2017).
- 03:00:32 Rep. Skees asked Mr. Milburn about the \$395 million that the DOJ has set aside for remediation. Mr. Milburn said it is PSE that has the money set aside.
- 03:00:56 Rep. Skees asked Mr. Bennion how the \$80,000 appropriation is being used and about the direction given by the legislature.
- 03:06:26 Sen. Richmond asked Mr. Bennion to clarify liability if the attorney general appears in another state and provides expert testimony about remediation requirements.

- 03:08:25 Rep. Bishop asked Mr. Secrist about the \$10 million designation from PSE.
- 03:10:02 Rep. Zolnikov asked Mr. Bennion about the individual who was chosen to provide testimony for the DOJ in the rate case.
- 03:13:41 Rep. McNally thanked the participants.

# PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OVERVIEW

- 03:15:41 Brad Johnson, chairman, Montana Public Service Commission (PSC), provided information on HB 219 (2017) and the PSC action on the study of net metering. (Exhibit 9)
- 03:16:31 Mr. Johnson discussed the PSC work load and available resources.
- 03:19:35 Mr. Johnson discussed efforts to implement HB 193 (2017).
- 03:20:37 Mr. Johnson discussed HB 219.
- 03:21:25 Mr. Johnson discussed SB 11 (2017).
- 03:22:19 Mr. Johnson discussed the future of Colstrip and the applications for Hydro One to acquire Avista Corporation.
- 03:24:14 Mr. Johnson discussed the Montana Dakota Utilities integrated resource plan.
- 03:25:02 Mr. Johnson discussed pending natural gas rate cases.
- 03:26:49 Mr. Johnson discussed the Rail Safety program.
- 03:29:12 Mr. Johnson discussed the Pipeline Safety program.

Public comment None

Committee questions and discussion

- 03:30:42 Rep. Zolnikov asked Mr. Johnson about PSC funding.
- 03:31:57 Rep. Zolnikov asked Mr. Johnson about the PSC's increased workload.
- 03:35:46 Rep. McNally asked Mr. Johnson if the ETIC will receive periodic updates on the net metering study.
- 03:36:57 Rep. Zolnikov commented on legislation that increases PSC workload and its available resources.

# ENERGY HANDBOOKS

03:38:24 Mr. Graff said staff has begun work on updating the handbook <u>Understanding</u> <u>Energy in Montana</u> and is working with the Department of Environmental Quality. He said a draft should be available for the January ETIC meeting and a final draft by the March 16 meeting.

Committee questions and discussion None

Public comment

- 03:40:40 Dan Lloyd, section supervisor, Energy Planning and Renewable Section, Department of Environmental Quality.
- 03:42:01 Recess for lunch at 11:43 a.m.
- 05:01:26 Reconvene at 1:03 p.m.

# HJ 28: NATURAL GAS CUSTOMER CHOICE

- 05:02:06 Mr. Graff provided background information for ETIC's study on natural gas customer choice. He said as an initial step for the study committee members received a copy of questions to review and approve that will be sent to Montana Dakota Utilities (MDU). (Exhibit 10)
- 05:04:50 David Hoffman, director, Government Relations, NorthWestern Energy (NWE), provided information on natural gas customer choice. (Exhibit 11)

Public comment

- 05:08:39 Jennifer Hill-Hart, attorney, PSC.
- 05:09:00 John Iverson, Big Sky Gas.
- 05:10:14 Diego Rivas, Northwest Energy Coalition.
- 05:11:13 Gary Forrester, Montana Dakota Utilities.
- 05:12:00 Robert Silverberg, Crius Energy.

# Committee questions and discussion

- 05:18:07 Rep. Bishop asked Mr. Hoffman about assistance for low income customers.
- 05:19:26 Rep. Bishop redirected her question to Mr. Rivas. Rep. Bishop requested that Mr. Rivas provide data on the number of customers impacted.
- 05:22:45 Sen. Richmond asked Mr. Hoffman where gas moves from into the system.
- 05:23:58 Rep. Skees asked Mr. Silverberg to provide information on the language of the legislation that was passed in Pennsylvania that opened up customer choice and also for contact information for a legislator that was involved in writing the legislation.
- 05:25:05 Rep. Zolnikov asked Mr. Silverberg how quickly he can provide information on what other states are doing. Mr. Silverberg said it will take two weeks.
- 05:26:18 Rep. Zolnikov asked Mr. Forrester how quickly MDU can provide answers to the ETIC questions. Mr. Forrester said it will be before the meeting in January.
- 05:27:37 Mr. Hoffman said he can provide the committee with information from NWE's 2016 annual report that outlines natural gas Universal System Benefits (USB) programs and where the money goes. (Exhibit 12)
- 05:28:13 Rep. Bishop asked Mr. Hoffman to provide information on the foundation for NWE's implementation policy on customer choice.
- 05:30:23 Sen. Richmond asked Ms. Hill-Hart if large commercial customers are currently able to purchase natural gas from third party suppliers. Ms. Hill-Hart said they are. Sen. Richmond asked Ms. Hill-Hart to provide information on the criteria for a large customer and a list of who they are.
- 05:32:50 Rep. Zolnikov asked staff about adding a question regarding the profit from natural gas.
- 05:34:08 Mr. Graff provided information on future plans for the study for the next two ETIC meetings.
- 05:35:24 Rep. Zolnikov commented on adding the question regarding profit.
- 05:35:56 Mr. Graff said the committee can add or subtract any questions.
- 05:36:08 Sen. McNally said the questions can be sent to MDU and other questions can be added regarding NWE's experience.

- 05:36:38 Mr. Graff asked Sen. McNally if the committee wants a separate letter sent to NWE. Sen. McNally said she recommends sending a less detailed letter to NWE to clarify its experience.
- 05:37:40 Rep. Bishop asked about the timeline for getting information back from MDU and NWE in order to allow for public review before the ETIC meeting in January.
- 05:38:39 Mr. Graff said the plan is to have information back from MDU by November 1 and have an analysis done for committee members prior to the January meeting.

#### Committee Action on Proposed Questions to MDU

- 05:39:23 Sen. McNally opened discussion on the proposed questions.
- 05:39:46 Sen. Richmond
- 05:40:25 Mr. Graff
- 05:40:44 Sen. Richmond
- 05:41:18 Mr. Graff
- 05:41:41 Ms. Nowakowski
- 05:42:19 Rep. Bishop
- 05:42:37 Sen. McNally

#### Motion/Vote

05:42:58 Rep. Skees moved to draft the questions as proposed by staff and discussed by the committee and submit to MDU with a response deadline of November 1. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote of those present and voting.

#### **QUALIFYING FACILITIES TARIFFS/CONTRACTS**

- 05:44:22 Ms. Nowakowski said the committee received a report summarizing changes in Qualifying Facilities (QF) tariffs in Montana, providing a snapshot of implementation in Montana, and providing information on the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA) implementation in other states. (Exhibit 13)
- 05:45:07 Ms. Nowakowski said the committee received information from the PSC on NWE's QF contracts. (Exhibit 14)
- 05:46:58 Ms. Nowakowski said the committee agreed to send a letter to the PSC requesting the PSC reconsider its decision to cap the length of long-term electricity supplier arrangements under the QF-1 tariff to a maximum of 10 years. (Exhibit 15)
- 05:47:52 Mr. Johnson gave an update on the QF-1 and MTSUN dockets.

#### Public comment

05:49:42 Jeff Fox, Renewable Northwest.

#### Committee questions and discussion

- 05:50:18 Rep. Bishop said she recommends that the ETIC state its intention to have legislative action on QF contract lengths during the next legislative session.
- 05:52:04 Rep. Zolnikov said he agrees and commented on business in the state.
- 05:53:28 Rep. Zolnikov asked Mr. Johnson if any new concepts are being considered.
- 05:55:21 Sen. McNally asked Rep. Bishop to clarify her recommendation. Rep. Bishop said she is asking the ETIC to take action to create legislation for the 2019 Legislative Session that will further clarify QF contract lengths.

<u>Committee</u>	discussion on legislation to clarify QF contract lengths
05:55:58	Sen. McNally
05:56:34	Rep. Bishop
05:57:40	Rep. Zolnikov
05:59:22	Rep. Skees
06:00:56	Rep. Zolnikov
06:02:01	Sen. Richmond
06:02:50	Rep. Perry
06:03:29	Ms. Nowakowski
06:04:57	Rep. Bishop
06:05:48	Ms. Nowakowski
06:06:41	Rep. Zolnikov
06:07:49	Sen. McNally
06:08:21	Rep. Zolnikov
06:10:11	Sen. Richmond
06:11:00	Sen. McNally
06:11:13	Ms. Nowakowski
06:12:13	Rep. Zolnikov
06:13:56	Sen. McNally
06:14:40	Rep. Bishop
06:16:21	Sen. Richmond
06:16:48	Sen. McNally
06:17:29	Rep. Zolnikov
06:18:26	Sen. McNally
06:20:43	Rep. Perry
06:20:56	Rep. Zolnikov
06:22:30	Sen. McNally

# <u>Motion</u>

06:22:47 Rep. Bishop moved that the ETIC agree to create a bill to define long-term contracts.

# **Discussion on the Motion**

06:23:33	Sen.	Richmond

#### Vote

- 06:24:00 The motion carried 5-1 by roll call vote with Sen. Richmond voting no. Sen. Sales and Sen. Wolken were excused. (Attachment 4)
- 06:24:52 Sen. McNally asked about next steps.
- 06:25:00 Ms. Nowakowski
- 06:25:22 Rep. Bishop
- 06:26:00 Rep. Skees left the meeting.
- 06:26:00 Sen. McNally
- 06:27:24 Recess

- 06:40:51 Reconvene
- 06:41:24 Sen. McNally said the committee will hear items from the end of its agenda and at 3:00 p.m. will hear about decoupling.

## STATUTORY ADMINISTRATIVE RULE REVIEW

06:41:40 Jameson Walker, staff attorney, LSD, discussed pending rules. (Exhibit 16)
06:43:03 Sen. McNally asked Mr. Walker about the public comment period for the rule pertaining to operator service providers.

Public comment None

Committee questions and discussion None

## PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE ETIC None

## **OTHER BUSINESS/INSTRUCTIONS TO STAFF**

#### **Budget Update**

06:44:18 Mr. Graff said the committee received a memo from Susan Fox, executive director, LSD, regarding potential interim committee budget cuts. (see Exhibit 6) He said the ETIC has approximately \$38,000 in its budget.

#### Committee discussion

- 06:45:45 Sen. McNally said the committee can wait to decide if it wants to have a meeting away from Helena.
- 06:46:09 Mr. Graff said the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has released its wind generation facility bonding rules (Exhibit 17) and is having a stakeholder meeting on October 5.
- 06:46:44 Sen. McNally asked Mr. Graff if he will be attending the meeting. Mr. Graff said he will.
- 06:46:52 Mr. Walker said the purview for the rule is within the Environmental Quality Council, but they thought the ETIC should also look at the rule. He said the intention of the DEQ is to have the rule adopted before the end of the year.
- 06:47:24 Sen. McNally said the rule will be finalized before the ETIC meets again. Mr. Walker agreed.
- 06:47:46 Sen. McNally asked staff to provide the committee with an update after the meeting in October in case they have feedback. Mr. Graff said he will.
- 06:48:19 Mr. Walker said the draft rules were only received this week.
- 06:48:31 Sen. McNally encouraged committee members to look at the rule.

#### Review of January Meeting Items

- 06:48:48 Mr. Graff discussed the items on the agenda for the January 16 meeting.
- 06:51:07 Ms. Nowakowski said the agenda items will be updated to reflect the actions taken by the committee today.

- 06:51:26 Sen. McNally asked staff about devoting time to regulating small water utilities and integrated resource planning and scheduling the topics on separate meeting dates.
- 06:52:38 Sen. McNally said she will work with staff on bringing someone in to have a general discussion on energy storage and not just energy storage in Montana.

# SJ 31: DECOUPLING

- 06:55:09 Mr. Graff gave a PowerPoint presentation on decoupling and decoupling policy in western states. (Exhibit 18) Mr. Graff said more information is in included in the report that committee members received. (Exhibit 19)
- 07:05:51 Rep. Bishop asked Mr. Graff about the meaning of weather-normalized sales.
- 07:06:40 Mr. Graff continued his presentation.
- 07:17:10 Sen. McNally commented on the presentation and what is being done in other states.

## Public comment

- 07:18:52 Jason Brown, Montana Consumer Council.
- 07:24:25 Diego Rivas, Northwest Energy Coalition.
- 07:30:05 Doug Hardy, Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association.

# Committee questions and discussion

- 07:31:29 Sen. McNally asked Mr. Rivas about the reasons for putting in a rate cap.
- 07:35:05 Rep. Bishop commented on and asked about next steps.
- 07:37:01 Mr. Graff said it appears the committee is looking for a perspective on the "why" and not the "how" and asked if there is someone in Montana that can be used as a resource.
- 07:37:37 Sen. McNally said there are resources available and that it is important to determine the pros and cons and finding examples of doing it right and wrong.
- 07:39:55 Mr. Graff asked Sen. McNally about next steps.
- 07:40:39 Rep. Zolnikov thanked staff for the information.
- 07:40:57 Sen. McNally said it is a complicated issue and that she will work with staff on next steps.

# **ENCOURAGING INVESTMENT IN MONTANA ENERGY**

- 07:41:50 Rep. Zolnikov commented on why the study is important and discussed the topics on the agenda today.
- 07:43:03 Ms. Nowakowski said the work plan dedicates time and resources for a review of opportunities for developing Montana's energy resources. She said she worked with Rep. Zolnikov and the committee will receive information from developers, and staff will provide summaries, regarding regulations and incentives. She said the committee received a summary that was prepared by staff introducing the topic. (Exhibit 20)

- 07:45:41 Sean Becker, administrator, Montana Office of Tourism and Business Development, Department of Commerce, provided an introduction to a PowerPoint presentation on marketing and developing Montana's energy sector. (Exhibit 21)
- 07:47:20 Tom Kaiserski, chief, Research and Information Services Bureau, Department of Commerce, discussed the areas that the department is working on to develop Montana's energy sector.
- 08:12:32 Larry Johnson, president, Montana Photonics Industry Alliance, gave a PowerPoint presentation on photonics, the Montana photonics cluster in the Bozeman and Gallatin valley area, and actions being taken and opportunities. (Exhibit 22)

Public comment None

Committee questions and discussion None

- 08:29:30 Committee members thanked the presenters.
- 08:30:43 Sen. McNally asked if there were any other questions and thanked the committee members and presenters.

## ADJOURN

08:31:10 Sen. McNally adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

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