

**MINUTES**

**MONTANA SENATE  
57th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION  
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN MACK COLE**, on April 6, 2001 at 3:40 P.M., in Room 303 Capitol.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Mack Cole, Chairman (R)  
Sen. Royal Johnson, Vice Chairman (R)  
Sen. Steve Doherty (D)  
Sen. Mike Halligan (D)  
Sen. Walter McNutt (R)  
Sen. Don Ryan (D)  
Sen. Mike Taylor (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Alvin Ellis Jr. (R)  
Sen. Bea McCarthy (D)  
Sen. Corey Stapleton (R)  
Sen. Tom Zook (R)

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Todd Everts, Legislative Branch  
Melissa Rasmussen, Committee Secretary

**Please Note:** These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: None  
Executive Action: HB 645

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 645**

**Todd Everts** explained that amendments **HB064502.agp EXHIBIT (ens78a01)** do three things: provide the Public Service Commission with the authority to establish operating procedures for the energy pool, allow a generator or supplier of electricity to assign or sell electric energy to the pool, and require an electricity supplier to allow customers to assign or sell energy that customers have conserved or curtailed to the energy pool.

**Motion/Vote:** SEN. DOHERTY moved that **AMENDMENTS HB064502.AGP BE ADOPTED. Motion carried 7-0.**

**Motion:** SEN. DOHERTY moved that **AMENDMENTS HB0064502.ATE EXHIBIT (ens78a02) BE ADOPTED.**

**Discussion:**

**SEN. STEVE DOHERTY** explained that the amendments define conservation efforts as a demand reduction on a utility system.

**Mr. Everts** stated that the term does not include shifting demand from the utility to a non-utility supply source.

**SEN. MACK COLE** asked for the definition of a non-utility source. **Will Rosquist, PSC,** speculated that it is a customers self-generation.

**SEN. WALT MCNUTT** questioned what would happen if there was a supply of 500 megawatts, and a large customer needs 100, if a customer conserves usage back to 400, can the 100 go back into the power pool.

**SEN. DOHERTY** exclaimed that was not his intent. He withdrew the motion.

**SEN. MIKE HALLIGAN** questioned what happens currently when a large industry puts together a co-generation plant and there is a demand reduction. What happens to the excess power. **Mr. Rosquist** stated that if a customer cuts back on consumption the power, by default goes back to PPL.

**Motion/Vote:** SEN. HALLIGAN moved that **HB 645 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED. Motion carried 8-0.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 3:50 P.M.

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SEN. MACK COLE, Chairman

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MELISSA RASMUSSEN, Secretary

MC/MR

**EXHIBIT (ens78aad)**