

MINUTES

**MONTANA SENATE
61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Chairman Jerry W. Black, on March 19, 2009 at 3:30 P.M., in Room 317-A Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Jerry W. Black, Chairman (R)
Sen. Roy Brown (R)
Sen. Ron Erickson (D)
Sen. John Esp (R)
Sen. Bob Hawks (D)
Sen. Dave Lewis (R)
Sen. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Aubyn Curtiss, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Kelly Gebhardt (R)
Sen. Lynda Moss (D)
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Branch
Nadine Spencer, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 483, 3/10/2009; HB 529,
3/10/2009

Executive Action: None

HEARING ON HB 483**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:00:52 Rep. Llew Jones (R), HD 27, opened the hearing on HB 483, Revising laws governing board of environmental review related to energy projects.

EXHIBIT (ens61a01)

00:03:27 Sen. Tropila entered the hearing.

00:05:36 Sen. Gebhardt entered the hearing.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:05:54 Brett Doney, Montana Economic Developers Association (MEDA) and Great Falls Development Authority (GFDA)

EXHIBIT (ens61a02)

00:09:11 Bob Williams, Montana Alberta Tie Limited

00:14:46 Leo Berry, Great Northern Properties and Great Northern Property Development

00:18:32 Candace Payne, representing Southern Montana Electric Generation and Transmission Cooperative

00:22:16 J. D. Lynch, Montana State Building Trades

00:23:29 Dan Flynn, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW)

00:23:47 Bud Clinch, Montana Coal Council

EXHIBIT (ens61a03)

00:26:16 Keith Allen, (IBEW), #233

00:26:56 Bill Gallagher, Helena

00:27:21 Alan Ekblad, representing Operating Engineers Local 400

00:27:55 Don Allen, Western Environmental Trade Association (WETA)

00:29:47 John Bennion, Montana Chamber of Commerce

00:31:20 Vanessa Clark representing Helena and Great Falls Chamber of Commerce

00:31:53 Darryl James, private consultant from Helena

Opponents' Testimony:

00:33:37 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

00:49:34 Brad Sauer, Miles City, member Northern Plains Resource Council

00:52:16 Sarah Cobler, Montana Conservation Voters

00:55:25 Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon

00:57:20 Chuck Magraw, Renewable Northwest Project (RNP) and
Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
01:01:48 Richard Parks, from Gardiner and representing Northern
Plains Resource Council
01:03:14 Carolyn Duckworth, Gardiner

Informational Testimony:

01:05:22 Warren McCullough, representing Montana Department of
Environmental Quality (DEQ), Environmental Management
Bureau
01:06:00 Brad Molnar, Public Service Commission (PSC), District
2 (Chairman ruled that his testimony should be
designated as a proponent rather than informational
testimony)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:11:50 Sen. Erickson
01:12:53 Rep. Jones
01:13:37 Sen. Erickson
01:14:15 Rep. Jones
01:16:10 Sen. Erickson
01:16:30 Rep. Jones
01:17:02 Sen. Erickson
01:17:41 Rep. Jones
01:17:51 Sen. Erickson
01:17:54 Rep. Jones
01:17:57 Sen. Erickson
01:18:01 Rep. Jones
01:18:06 Sen. Erickson
01:18:09 Rep. Jones
01:18:20 Sen. Erickson
01:18:37 Sen. Lewis
01:19:19 Rep. Jones
01:19:49 Sen. Lewis
01:20:18 Rep. Jones
01:21:36 Sen. Hawks
01:22:45 Leo Berry
01:22:50 Sen. Hawks
01:23:16 Leo Berry
01:24:17 Sen. Erickson
01:25:30 Anne Hedges

Closing by Sponsor:

01:25:51 Rep. Jones

HEARING ON HB 529**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:33:50 Rep. Llew Jones (R), HD 27, opened the hearing on HB 529, Generally revise MEPA.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:39:31 Don Allen
01:40:41 Dan Flynn
01:40:58 Brett Doney
01:41:15 Vanessa Clark
01:41:55 Bob Williams
01:43:04 Keith Allen
01:44:02 William Duffield, Montana Association of Oil, Gas and Coal Counties (MAOGC)

Opponents' Testimony:

01:44:47 Janet Ellis
[EXHIBIT \(ens61a04\)](#)

01:49:41 Anne Hedges
01:51:21 Sarah Cobler

Informational Testimony:

01:52:00 Jeanne Holmgren, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), Trust Land Management Division

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:53:17 Sen. Tropila
01:53:55 Rep. Jones
01:56:02 Sen. Tropila
01:56:15 Rep. Jones
01:58:19 Sen. Tropila
01:58:55 Rep. Jones
02:00:09 Sen. Hawks
02:01:12 Rep. Jones
02:02:28 Sen. Curtiss entered the hearing.
02:02:52 Sen. Hawks
02:03:00 Rep. Jones
02:03:19 Sen. Hawks
02:03:28 Rep. Jones
02:04:06 Sen. Tropila
02:05:18 Janet Ellis

Closing by Sponsor:

02:06:56 Rep. Jones

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:44 P.M.

Nadine Spencer, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([ens61aad.pdf](#))