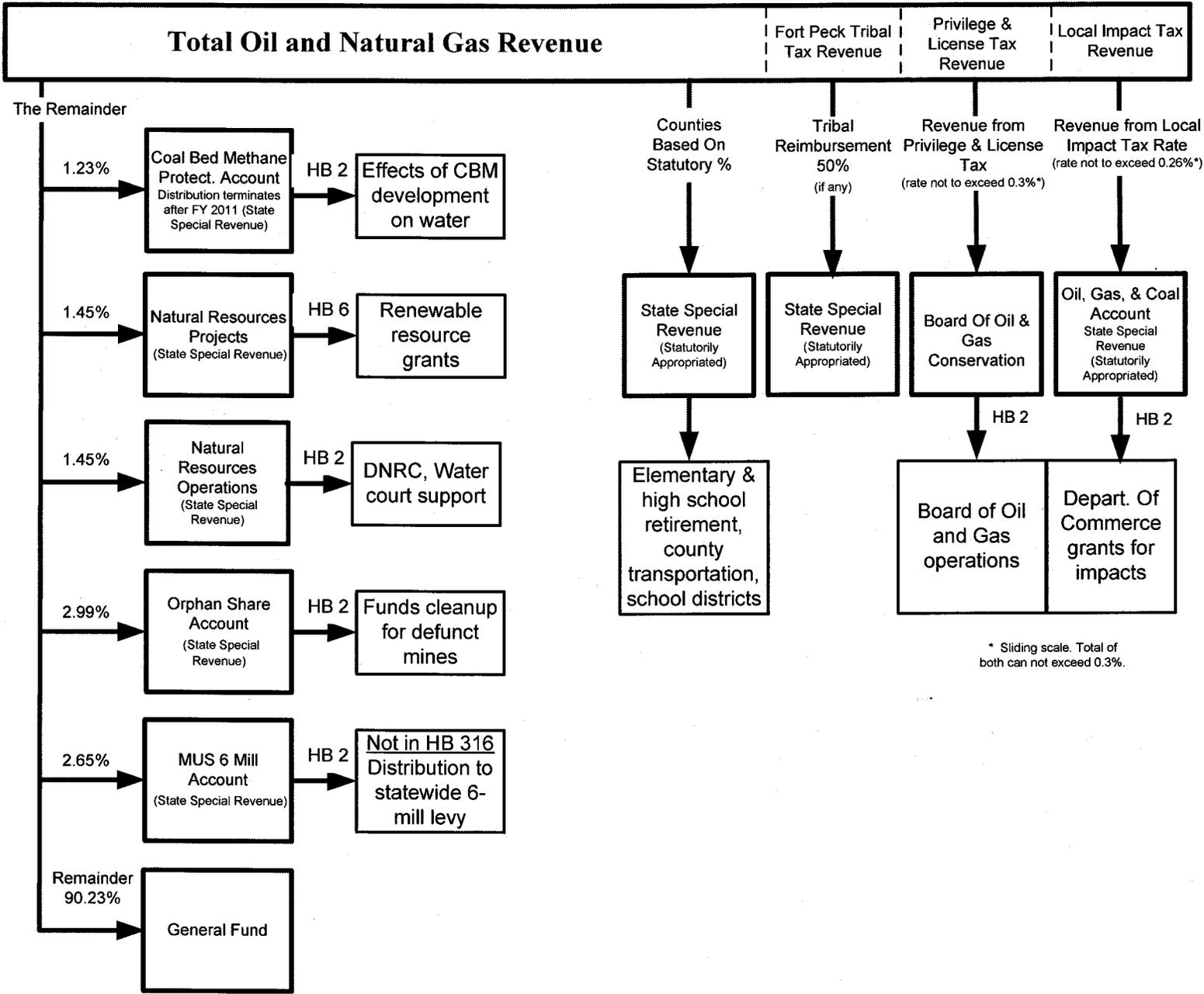
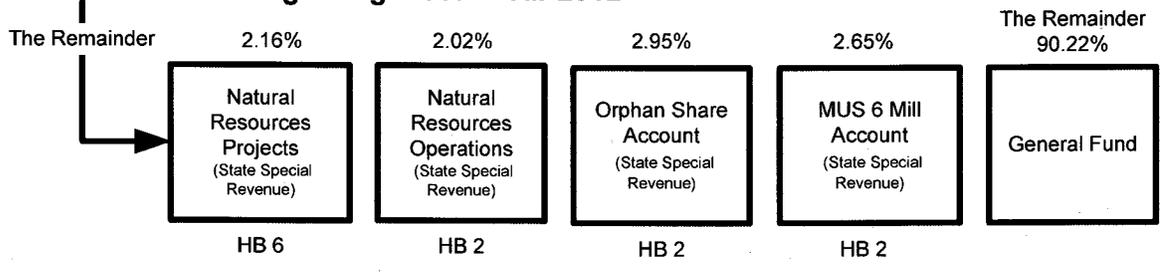


Fiscal Years 2008 to 2011



Beginning Fiscal Year 2012



Collection Frequency:

Quarterly: The oil and natural gas production tax is due 60 days after the end of the production quarter.

% of Total General Fund Revenue:

- FY 2004 – 2.99%
- FY 2005 – 4.09%
- FY 2006 – 5.42%
- FY 2007 – 5.25%
- FY 2008 – 7.64%
- FY 2009 – 5.56%
- FY 2010 – 5.87%

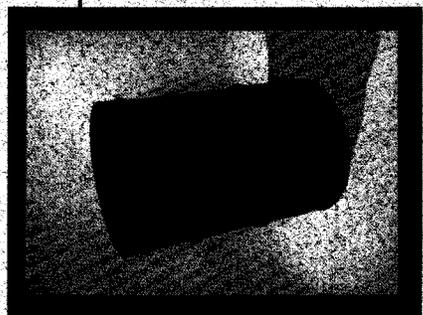
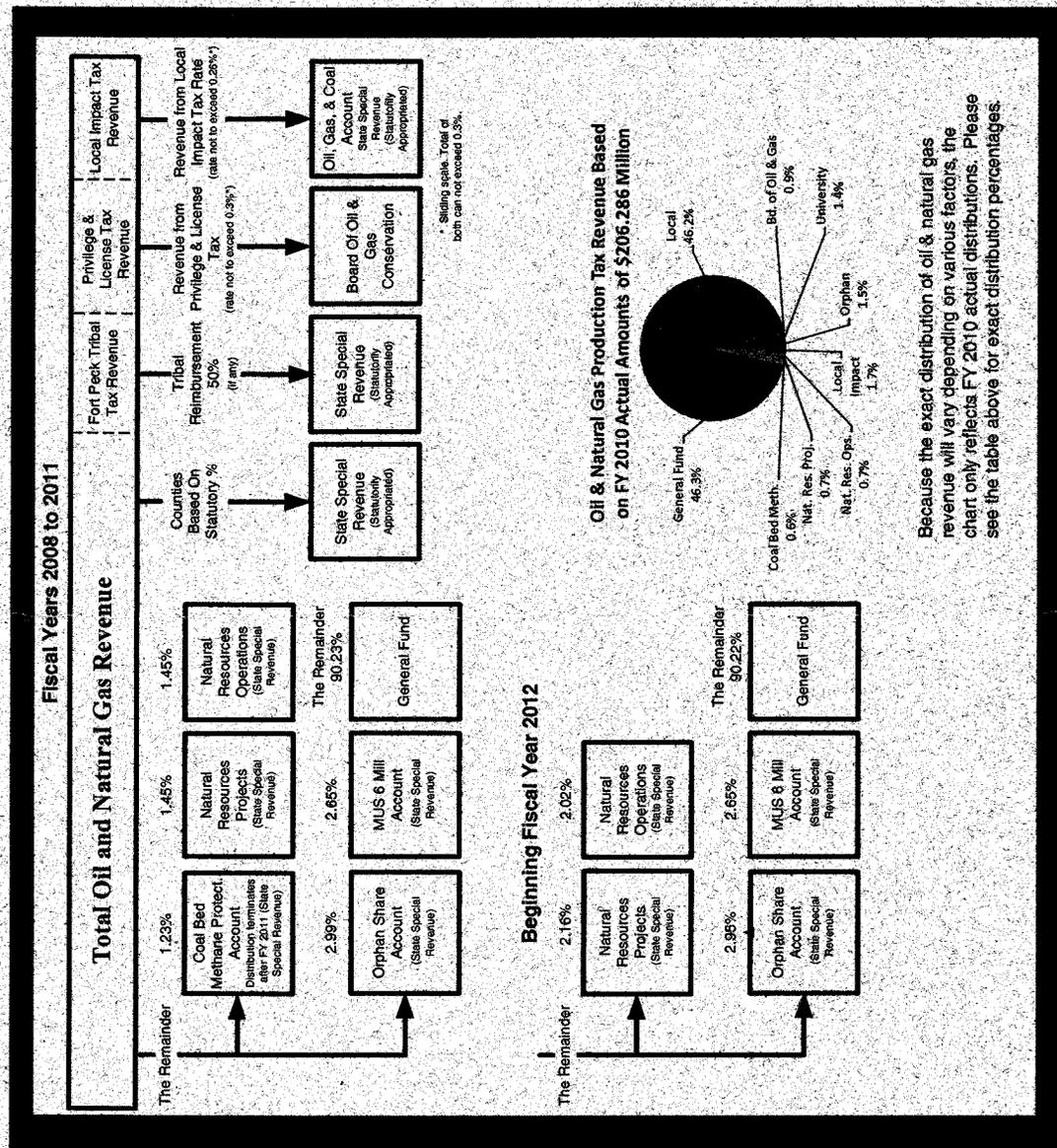
Taxes in Brief



November 2010

Fiscal Policy Brief

EXHIBIT NO. 6
DATE 02/01/2011
BILL NO. _____



Legislative Fiscal Division
Revenue & Taxation Policy
Room 110, State Capitol
Helena, MT 59620-1711
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Because the exact distribution of oil & natural gas revenue will vary depending on various factors, the chart only reflects FY 2010 actual distributions. Please see the table above for exact distribution percentages.

Revenue Description:

The oil and natural gas production tax is imposed on the production of petroleum and natural gas in the state. Gross taxable value of oil and natural gas production is based on the type of well and type of production. A portion of the revenue from the tax may be returned to Indian tribes per agreements between the Department of Revenue and the tribes.

Statutory Reference:

Tax Rate (MCA) – 15-36-304, Privilege and license tax – 82-11-131, Administrative Rules 36.72.1242

Tax Distribution (MCA) – 15-36-33(4), 15-36-33(2&3) (to taxing units)

Date Due – within 60 days after the end of the calendar quarter (15-36-311(1))

Applicable Tax Rate(s):

The oil and natural gas production tax has numerous tax rates depending on several factors. These factors include whether the oil or gas is produced from a stripper well, a stripper incentive well, from a well initially drilled before 1999 or after, from a well newly drilled within the last year or 18 months, and whether the interest being taxed is the working interest or the royalty interest. The Board of Oil and Gas Conservation imposes an additional privilege and license (P & L) tax on all oil and natural gas tax rates. Starting October 2006 as set by the Board, the P&L tax rate is 0.09%. Based on this rate, HB 758 enacted by the 2005 Legislature allows an additional tax rate of 0.17% to generate revenue for local impacts for local governments. The two taxes may not exceed 0.3%. The following table shows tax rate percentages for each type of pre-1999 oil and post-1999 oil, excluding the P & L tax and the new Local Impact tax. The quarterly tax rates on stripper production and on incremental production are lower than that for regular production unless the price of West Texas Intermediate averages above \$30 for the quarter. Similarly, the quarterly tax rate for stripper well exemption production (1-3 barrels a day) is lower than that for regular production unless the price of West Texas Intermediate averages above \$38 for the quarter.

Distribution:

Once the oil and natural gas production taxes have been collected, the revenue is first distributed based on the amounts collected from the P & L and Local Impact taxes. The amounts from the P & L tax are distributed to the Board of Oil and Gas Conservation. The amounts from the Local Impact tax are distributed to the oil and gas natural resource state special revenue account. The amounts received by the Board and the oil and gas natural resource account vary based on a sliding tax scale based on the P & L tax set by the Board. Counties producing oil and natural gas receive the next share of total revenue with each county having its own statutory distribution percentage of total revenue, including the revenue generated by the P & L and Local Impact taxes. A portion of the revenue may be returned to Indian tribes per agreements between the Department of Revenue and the tribes. The remainder of the revenue is distributed to other state accounts in the following manner:

FY 2008 through FY 2011

- Coal bed methane account – 1.23%
- Natural resources projects account – 1.45%
- Natural resources operations account – 1.45%
- Orphan share account – 2.99%
- University system 6 mill levy account – 2.65%
- General fund – the remainder (90.23%)

The distributions of county shares and the amount of oil and natural gas production tax revenue deposited in the oil and gas natural resource account are statutorily appropriated and are based on the statutorily set percentages for each county.

Summary of Legislative Action:

The 61st Legislature did not enact legislation that impacted this general fund revenue source.

