

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 63rd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Alan Olson, on January 15, 2013 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Alan Olson, Chair (R)
Sen. Verdell Jackson, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Ron Arthun (R)
Sen. Robyn Driscoll (D)
Sen. Greg Jergeson (D)
Sen. Llew Jones (R)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)
Sen. Chas Vincent (R)
Sen. Edward Walker (R)

Members Excused:

Sen. Jeff Essmann (R)
Sen. Jason Priest (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Julie Emge, Committee Secretary
Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Branch

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: SB 31, 01/03/13; SB 45, 01/03/13; SB 52, 01/03/13

Executive Action: SB 52 Do Pass

Organizational Meeting

HEARING ON SB 52

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:14:16 Sen. Jim Keane (D), SD 38, opened the hearing on SB 52, Clarify renewable energy credit reporting requirements.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:15:49 Tom Ebzery, Attorney, Portland General Electric (PGE), Puget Sound Energy (PSE) and Avista Corp (AC)
00:20:06 Jeff Fox, Montana Policy Manager, Renewable Northwest Project (RNP)
00:21:07 John Fitzpatrick, Northwestern Energy
00:21:17 Doug Hardy, Montana Rural Electric Cooperatives Association (MECA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:21:49 Sen. Tropila
00:22:12 Mr. Ebzery, PGE, PSE, AC

Closing by Sponsor:

00:22:47 Sen. Keane

HEARING ON SB 45

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:23:27 Sen. Jim Keane (D), SD 38, opened the hearing on SB 45, Revise the renewable portfolio standard laws to include hydro expansions.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:25:47 David Hoffman, Director, Department of External Affairs, PPL Montana
EXHIBIT(ens07a01)
00:31:29 Bob Lake, Vice Chairman, Public Service Commission #4 (PSC)
00:32:30 Brett Doney, Great Falls Development Authority (GFDA)
00:34:48 Rhonda Wiggers, Great Falls Chamber of Commerce (GFCC)
00:36:30 Doug Hardy, Montana Rural Electric Cooperatives Association (MECA)
00:36:48 Charyn Ayoub, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)
00:37:57 Keith Allen, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 233 (IBEW)
00:38:56 Sen. JD Lynch, Montana State Building Trades (MSBT)
00:39:22 Chris Cavazos, Co-Director, Montana State AFLCIO
00:39:58 John Forkan, Montana State Association of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters (MSAPP)

00:40:41 Shane Morigeau, Confederated, Salish & Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)
00:41:13 John Roeber, Business Manager, Boiler Makers Local Lodge #11 (BMLL)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:41:51 Jeff Fox, Montana Policy Manager, Renewable Northwest Project (RNP)
[EXHIBIT\(ens07a02\)](#)

00:45:21 Kyla Maki, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)
00:48:18 Sam Thompson, Montana Public Interest Research Group (MPIRG)
00:49:22 Paul Cartwright, representing himself

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:53:04 Sen. Tropila
00:53:50 Mr. Hoffman, DEA, PPL
00:54:21 Sen. Tropila
00:54:31 Sen. Keane
00:55:33 Sen. Tropila
00:55:55 Mr. Hoffman
00:56:28 Sen. Tropila
00:56:38 Sen. Jergeson
00:58:29 Mr. Hoffman
00:58:50 Chairman Olson
01:00:16 Commissioner Lake, PSC

Closing by Sponsor:

01:00:36 Sen. Keane

HEARING ON SB 31

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:03:39 Sen. Debby Barrett (R), SD 36, opened the hearing on SB 31, Revise definition of eligible renewable resource.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:06:04 Steve Jennings, representing himself
[EXHIBIT\(ens07a03\)](#)

01:09:41 Bob Lake, Vice Chairman, Public Service Commission #4 (PSC)
01:10:48 Doug Hardy, Montana Rural Electric Cooperatives Association (MECA)
01:11:26 Shane Morigeau, Confederated, Salish & Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)

Opponents' Testimony:

01:11:58 Jeff Fox, Montana Policy Manager, Renewable Northwest Project (RNP)

EXHIBIT(ens07a04)

01:17:06 Kyla Maki, Montana Environmental Resource Information Center (MERIC)

01:19:57 Sam Thompson, Montana Public Interest Research Group (MPIRG)

01:21:29 Justin Sakalis, Montana Audubon (MA)

01:22:48 Charyn Ayoub, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)

01:23:54 Tom Kaiserski, Program Manager, Energy, Promotion and Development
Division, Montana Department of Commerce (MDC)

EXHIBIT(ens07a05)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

01:29:08 Sen. Barrett

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 52

01:31:08 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Tropila moved that **SB 52 DO PASS**. Motion carried
unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Essmann and Sen. Priest voted by proxy.

Committee Business:

01:32:24 Chairman Olson

01:32:32 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Arthun moved **TO ADOPT** rules of procedure for the
Committee. Motion carried unanimously by those present and voting.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:25 pm

Julie Emge, Secretary

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Additional Documents

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([ens07aad.pdf](#))