

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 63rd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Alan Olson, on February 12, 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 247, 2/6/2013

HEARING ON SB 247

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:13:30 Sen. Mike Phillips (D), SD 33, opened the hearing on SB 247, Increase net metering cap on energy production.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:20:25 Ben Brouwer, representing Montana Renewable Energy Association (MREA), Alternative Energy Resources Organization (AERO)

EXHIBIT(ens31a01)

00:34:30 Conor Darby, President, Montana Renewable Energy Association (MREA), Owner/Operator, Solstice Energy Systems (SES)

00:40:45 John Palm, Owner/Operator, Bozeman Green Build (BGB)

00:44:06 Jonathan Foster, Moodie Wind Energy (MWE)

00:49:31 Diana Maneta, Executive Director, Montana Renewable Energy Association (MREA)

EXHIBIT(ens31a02)

00:53:29 John Krigger, President, Saturn Resource Management (SRM)

00:56:04 Matt Elsaesser, Student Advocates for Valuing the Environment (SAVE) Foundation

00:57:29 Kyla Maki, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

01:01:01 Sam Thompson, Montana Public Interest Research Group (MontPIRG)

01:02:07 Jeff Fox, Montana Policy Manager, Renewable Northwest Project (RNP)

01:05:59 Lou Moore, Chief of the Pollution Prevention Bureau, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Opponents' Testimony:

01:07:11 John Fitzpatrick, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)

01:18:55 Dan Flynn, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:20:32 Sen. Driscoll

01:20:47 Mr. Fitzpatrick, NWE

01:21:12 Sen. Vincent

01:21:27 Mr. Fitzpatrick

01:22:10 Sen. Jergeson

01:23:45 Mr. Fitzpatrick

01:23:58 Sen. Arthun

01:24:10 Mr. Fitzpatrick

01:24:32 Sen. Kaufmann

01:26:30 Mr. Flynn, IBEW

01:26:40 Sen. Kaufmann
01:27:12 Mr. Darby, MREA, SES
01:29:08 Sen. Tropila
01:30:29 Ms. Maneta, MREA
01:31:09 Sen. Tropila
01:32:07 Mr. Darby
01:33:50 Sen. Tropila
01:35:08 Mr. Flynn
01:35:55 Sen. Tropila
01:36:49 Mr. Brouwer, MREA, AERO
01:38:38 Sen. Kaufmann
01:39:00 Sen. Phillips
01:39:52 Sen. Jackson
01:43:22 Mr. Fitzpatrick

Closing by Sponsor:

01:45:14 Sen. Phillips

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:40 p.m.

Julie Emge, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([ens31aad.pdf](#))