

# Montana State Legislature

**2015 SESSION**

**ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS**  
**May include the following:**

**Business Page**

[Signed by Chairman]

**Roll Call**

**Standing Committee Reports**

**Tabled Bills**

**Fiscal Reports**

**Rolls Call Votes**

**Proxy Forms**

**Visitor Registrations**

**\*Any other documents, which were submitted after the committee hearing has ended and/or was submitted late [within 48 hours], regarding information in the committee hearing.**

**\*Witness Statements that were not presented as exhibits.**

**Montana Historical Society Archives**

**225 N. Roberts**

**Helena MT 59620-1201**

**2015 Legislative**

**E-Document Specialist Susie Hamilton**

**BUSINESS REPORT**

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**Date:** Friday, April 10, 2015  
**Place:** Capitol

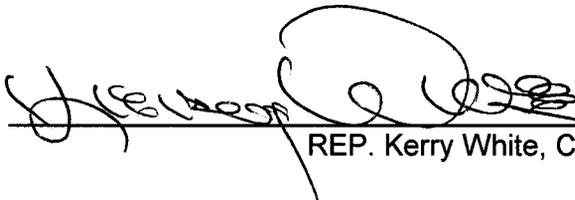
**Time:** 3:00 PM  
**Room:** 172

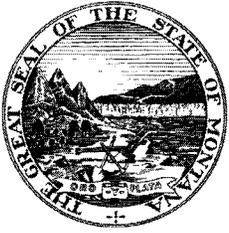
**BILLS and RESOLUTIONS HEARD:**

SB 326 - Revise state land laws - Sen. Jedediah Hinkle  
SB 20 - Reallocate metal mines license tax - Sen. Chas Vincent  
SB 409 - Revise metal mine laws - Sen. Chas Vincent

**EXECUTIVE ACTION TAKEN:** None

**Comments:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
REP. Kerry White, Chair



*The Big Sky Country*

## MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### NAT. RESOURCES COMMITTEE

### ROLL CALL

4/10/2015

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT/EXCUSED
REP. ED LIESER, VICE CHAIRMAN	✓	
REP. JERRY BENNETT	✓	
REP. BOB BROWN	✓	
REP. ZACH BROWN	✓	
REP. VIRGINIA COURT		✓
REP. MARY ANN DUNWELL	✓	
REP. STEVE FITZPATRICK, VICE CHAIRMAN		✓
REP. KELLY FLYNN	✓	
REP. THERESA MANZELLA	✓	
REP. NATE MCCONNELL		✓
REP. DALE MORTENSEN	✓	
REP. MARK NOLAND	✓	
REP. ANDREA OLSEN	✓	
REP. KEITH REGIER		✓
REP. RAY SHAW	✓	
REP. SCOTT STAFFANSON	✓	
REP. KATHLEEN WILLIAMS	✓	
REP. KERRY WHITE, CHAIR	✓	

18 MEMBERS





**MONTANA House of Representatives  
Visitors Register  
HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

Friday, April 10, 2015

SB 409 - Revise metal mine laws

Sponsor: Sen. Chas Vincent

PLEASE PRINT

Name	Representing	Support	Oppose	Info
John Beaudry	Stillwater Mining Co.	✓		
Dan Banghart	Barrick Golden Sunlight	✓		
Tammy Johnson	MMA	X		
Mark Cambrecht	TSR 1A	✓		
Warren McCullough	DEQ	✓		
MARK THOMPSON	MONTANA Resources	✓		
Shelbi Jankovic	MT Conservation Voters		✗	
Adam Haight	NPRC	✓		
HAROLD BATTIE	MAE	✓		
Mark Agones	MTU	✓		
Glenn Oppel	MT Chamber	X		
Delf Johnson	MEIC		X	

Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.

April 10, 2015

Rep. Kerry White, Chairman  
House Natural Resources Committee  
Montana Legislature  
PO Box 200540  
Helena, MT 59620-0400

RE: **SUPPORT SB 409**

Chairman White and Members of House Natural Resources Committee,

Stillwater Mining Company has three tailings storage facilities. Two associated with the Stillwater Mine and one at the East Boulder Mine. Eighteen different potential tailings facilities sites were first identified in 1985. Construction on the original tailings impoundment at the Stillwater Mine site was almost 30 years ago. Construction began on the Hertzler tailings storage facilities in 1999. Stage II expansion was in 2004 and construction on Stage III expansion began in 2014. Initial construction on the East Boulder tailings storage facility began in 2000. Stage II of the East Boulder tailings impoundment was completed in 2007.

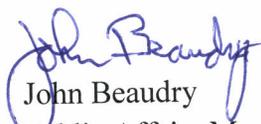
All three tailings storage facilities are in good standing. Annually, the Engineer of Record conducts an inspection of the facilities and notes any concerns or recommendations. Their annual inspection report is distributed to MDEQ/USFS and the "Good Neighbor" groups, including their third party consultant, as part of our Annual Report.

In addition, an independent review of the Stillwater mining tailings facilities has been conducted by a highly qualified geo-tech engineer. No signs of distress in any of the tailings storage facilities were identified and the tailings facilities were being operated within design parameters. The "Good Neighbors" group and their consultant participated in that Independent Review.

The independent reviews proposed in this Legislation are a new statutory requirement and adds an additional layer of oversight and confidence in the design and operation of tailings facilities. Stillwater Mining Company supports this proactive approach for design and operational criteria for tailings storage facilities to ensure public safety and environmental protection. The proposed legislation also assists the modern mining industry's desire to remain sustainable in the future.

Please **SUPPORT SB 409** We believe this is positive public policy.

Sincerely,



John Beaudry  
Public Affairs Manager  
Stillwater Mining Company