

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

**Call to Order:** Chair Roger Webb, on January 13, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317  
Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Sen. Roger Webb, Chair (R)  
Sen. Duane Ankney, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Mark Blasdel (R)  
Sen. Pat Connell (R)  
Sen. Robyn Driscoll (D)  
Sen. Llew Jones (R)  
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)  
Sen. Jim Keane (D)  
Sen. Bob Keenan (R)  
Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)  
Sen. Mary McNally (D)  
Sen. Bruce Tutvedt (R) (arrived after roll call)  
Sen. Jonathan Windy Boy (D) (arrived after roll call)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Branch  
Barbara Pietuch, 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: SB 111, 1/8/2015 SB 114, 1/8/2015

00:00:02 Chairman Webb

**HEARING ON SB 114**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:31 Sen. Debby Barrett (R), SD 36, opened the hearing on SB 114, Require that all hydro facilities be classified as renewable.

[EXHIBIT\(ens07a01\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:06:27 John Fitzpatrick, director of governmental affairs, Northwestern Energy

[EXHIBIT\(ens07a02\)](#)

00:12:02 Doug Hardy, Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association (MECA)

00:12:21 Dan Flynn, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW)

00:12:47 Joe Balyeat, state director, Americans for Prosperity-Montana (AFP)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:14:26 Kyla Maki, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

[EXHIBIT\(ens07a03\)](#)

00:21:27 Adam Haight, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)

00:22:44 Jake Brown, Montana Public Interest Research Group (MontPIRG)

00:23:26 Neal Ullman, program director, Montana Conservation Voters (MVC)

00:24:11 Jeff Blend, Energy and Pollution Prevention Bureau, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

00:26:20 Jeff Fox, Montana policy manager, Renewable Northwest (RNP)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:29:24 Sen. Barrett

**HEARING ON SB 111**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:30:55 Sen. Duane Ankney (R), SD 20, opened the hearing on SB 111, Clarify wind generation facility impact fee for local governmental units.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:33:27 Tom Bennett, commissioner, Wheatland County

[EXHIBIT\(ens07a04\)](#)

00:35:09 Shantil Siaperas, legislative analyst and communications specialist, Montana Association of Counties

[EXHIBIT\(ens07a05\)](#)

00:36:20 Jeff Fox, Montana policy manager, Renewable Northwest (RNP)

00:37:46 Van Jamison, vice president, Strategic Operations, Gaelectric, LLC

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:39:01 Sen. Ankney

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 3:38 PM

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Barbara Pietuch, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([ens07aad.pdf](#))