

Renewable Energy in Montana - Survey for Utilities and Suppliers

The Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee (ETIC) of the Legislature is conducting a study of the Montana Renewable Power Production and Rural Economic Development Act. Since 2008, the Montana Renewable Power Production and Rural Economic Development Act required certain utilities to procure a percentage of their resources from renewable resources. As directed by [Senate Joint Resolution No. 6](#), the ETIC is focused on the economic impacts of the renewable portfolio standard, the environmental benefits of the standard, and the impacts the standard has had on Montana consumers. The committee is beginning its work by reaching out to public utilities and electricity suppliers who are or have been in the past subject to the standard or reporting requirements. The survey was drafted in an effort to capture questions relevant to all utilities and suppliers, however, some questions may not apply to every entity.

Please fill out the questionnaire and return it in before Friday, December 6, 2013. If you have questions, please contact Sonja Nowakowski, ETIC staff, at 406-444-3078 or snowakowski@mt.gov.

I will follow up with a phone call in the next week to ensure you have received the questionnaire and to inquire if you have any questions. Your input is critical in assisting the committee as it analyzes Montana's Renewable Portfolio Standard and contemplates potential changes to the standard.

1. What is the name of the utility or electricity supplier you represent?

2. What years were or are you subject to Montana's RPS ([69-3-2004, MCA](#))?

3. Have you been able to meet the requirements?

Yes

No

If not, have you received a waiver for any compliance year?

4. If you received a waiver, what was the overall cost (includes administrative costs) of the waiver?

5. If you have not met the standard or received a waiver, have you paid an administrative penalty?

Yes

No

If so, in what amount?

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6. What eligible renewable resources have you used to meet the overall percentage standards?

7. Are you subject to the CREP requirement?

Yes

No

8. Have you met the CREP requirement?

Yes

No

If not, have you received a waiver for any compliance year?

9. If you received a waiver, what was the overall cost (includes administrative costs) of the waiver?

10. If you have not met the requirement or received a waiver, have you paid an administrative penalty?

Yes

No

If so, in what amount?

11. What eligible renewable resources have you used to meet the CREP requirement?

12. Who owns the eligible renewable resource(s) you have used to meet the CREP requirement?

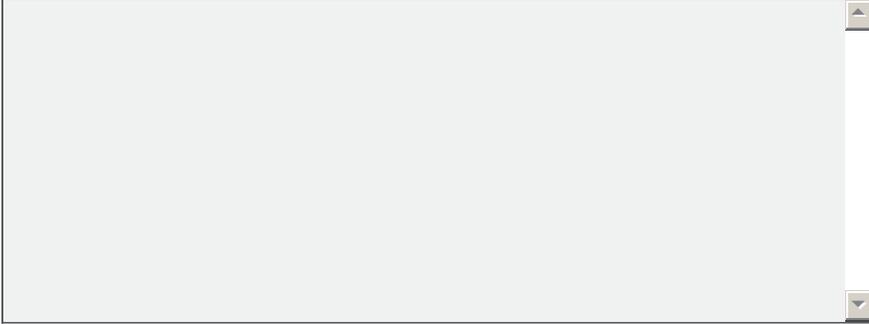
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13. Has the standard contributed to the diversification of your portfolio in Montana?

Yes

No

Please explain how it has or has not.

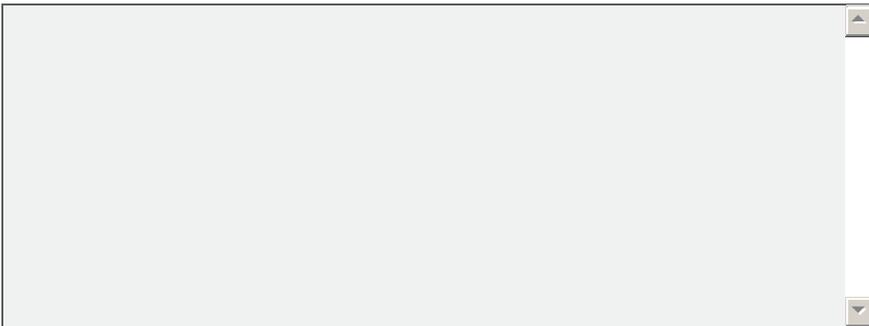
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14. Has the standard led to you reducing your dependence on fossil fuels?

Yes

No

Please explain how it has or has not.

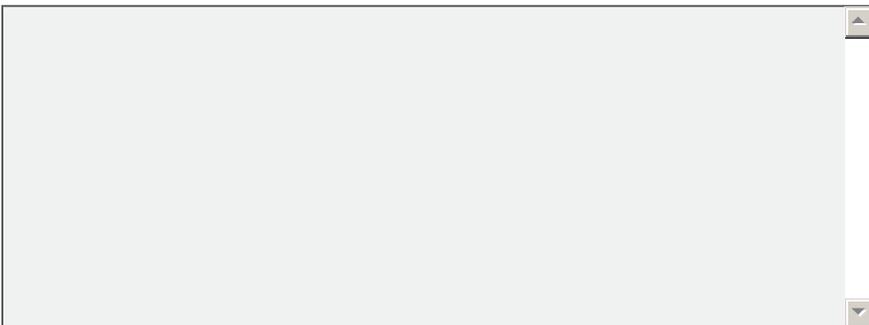
A large, empty rectangular text input area with a vertical scrollbar on the right side, intended for the respondent to provide an explanation for their answer to question 14.

15. Has the standard assisted you in hedging against the volatility of fossil fuel markets?

Yes

No

Please provide some details on how it has or has not.

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16. Has the standard contributed to higher costs for your customers?

- Yes
- No

17. If yes, how much has the standard increased your average residential customer's monthly utility bill?

In 2008?

In 2009?

In 2010?

In 2011?

In 2012?

Projected in 2013 through 2015?

18. Do you believe the standard is an asset or a hindrance to your customers?

- Yes
- No

Please explain.

19. What additional resources have been needed to integrate renewable resources?

20. Would these renewable and integration resources have been added to your portfolio if there was not a standard in Montana?

- Yes
- No

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21. Would you have constructed or acquired these resources at a different size if there was no standard?

Yes

No

22. Please explain your response to 20 and 21 above.

23. How much of the cost of integration resources used in conjunction with the renewable resources used to meet the standard is attributable to the standard?

24. In the 2012 compliance year what was the average unit price, including integration costs, for each renewable resource used to meet the standard (dollars/MWh)?

25. What was the comparable price in 2012 of your supply (not transmission service) resources, including:

Spot/hourly market resources?

Coal resources?

Natural gas resources?

Hydropower resources?

Qualifying facility resources?

Please identify the resources you are using as the basis of the answers above.

26. In the 2010 compliance year what was the average unit price, including integration costs, for each renewable resource used to meet the standard (dollars/MWh)?

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27. What was the comparable price in 2010 of your supply (not transmission service) resources, including:

Spot/hourly market resources?

Coal resources?

Natural gas resources?

Hydropower resources?

Qualifying facility resources?

Please identify the resources you are using as the basis of the answers above.

28. In the 2008 compliance year what was the average unit price, including integration costs, for each renewable resource used to meet the standard (dollars/MWh)?

29. What was the comparable price in 2008 of your supply (not transmission service) resources, including:

Spot/hourly market resources?

Coal resources?

Natural gas resources?

Hydropower resources?

Qualifying facility resources?

Please identify the resources you are using as the basis of the answers above.

30. Please provide any additional thoughts on Montana's Renewable Portfolio Standard