

# Renewable Energy in Montana - Survey for Generators

#2



**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Initial e-mail (Email)

**Started:** Thursday, October 03, 2013 9:11:36 AM

**Last Modified:** Wednesday, December 04, 2013 3:55:58 PM

**Time Spent:** Over a month

**Email:** brogan@oversightresources.com

**Custom Value:** Gordon Butte

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<b>Q1: What is the name of the project?</b>	Gordon Butte
<b>Q2: When did ...</b> ... construction of the project begin? 04/01/2011, ... the project begin operating? 01/03/2012	
<b>Q3: Did Montana's Renewable Portfolio Standard, enacted in 2005, contribute to your decision to build?</b>	No, Please provide details of why it did or did not. The largest factor that contributed to our decision to build was having access to the avoided cost rate provided in the QF-1 tariff that was available at that time. Although we do meet the RPS requirements for renewable generation and CREPs, neither one had a direct impact on our decision to build.
<b>Q4: What was the project investment (in \$ dollars)?</b>	23,000,000
<b>Q5: How many Montana contractors or subcontractors were hired during construction?</b>	60
<b>Q6: Please list the contractors and subcontractors</b> Dick Anderson Construction Rocky Mountain Contractors Electrical Consultants, Inc. Colstrip Electric Stahley Engineering	
<b>Q7: How many people were employed in Montana during construction?</b>	50
<b>Q8: What were the average earnings per job?</b>	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
<b>Q9: How many full-time permanent jobs has the project created in Montana and what are the average earnings per job?</b> 3 - \$33,333 avg salary	
<b>Q10: How many Montana or local vendors are utilized in support of the project?</b>	7
<b>Q11: In general, can you describe how those vendors are utilized?</b> They support the project as suppliers, scheduled maintenance, unplanned maintenance, repairs, technical support.	

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**Q12: How much in Montana property taxes (15-6-157, MCA) have been paid for the project in:**

Year 6 of construction or operation?	170000
Year 5 of construction or operation?	91000
Year 4 of construction or operation?	96000
Year 3 of construction or operation?	102000
Year 2 of construction or operation?	108000
Year 1 of construction or operation?	110342

**Q13: Is the project currently receiving a state (Montana) or federal tax abatement?** Yes

**Q14: What is the abatement?** 50% property tax abatement

**Q15: When will the tax abatement expire?**

Enter a date: 01/01/2022

**Q16: What are the estimated property taxes following expiration of the abatement?** 100,000

**Q17: How much in local property taxes (15-6-157, MCA) have been paid in Montana, and in what county, for the project in:**

Year 6 of construction or operation?	See #12 - Meagher County
Year 5 of construction or operation?	See #12 - Meagher County
Year 4 of construction or operation?	See #12 - Meagher County
Year 3 of construction or operation?	See #12 - Meagher County
Year 2 of construction or operation?	See #12 - Meagher County
Year 1 of construction or operation?	See #12 - Meagher County

**Q18: What was the amount of business equipment taxes (15-6-138, MCA) paid in Montana conjunction with the project in:** Respondent skipped this question

**Q19: Is the project subject to Montana's wholesale energy transaction tax (15-72-104, MCA)?** No

**Q20: If yes, what was the amount paid in:** Respondent skipped this question

**Q21: Is the project subject to Montana's electrical energy producers tax (15-51-101 MCA)?** Yes

**Q22: If yes, what was the amount paid in:**

Year 1 of operation?	8300
Year 2 of operation?	8300
Year 3 of operation?	8300
Year 4 of operation?	8300
Year 5 of operation?	8300
Year 6 of operation?	8300

**Q23: Has the project paid or will the project in the future pay facility impact fees for local governmental units and school districts in Montana (15-24-3004, MCA and 15-24-3005, MCA)?** No

**Q24: If so -** Respondent skipped this question

**Q25: In general terms how much is paid for land leases in Montana needed for the project?**

Approximately \$80,000 per year, increasing to approx \$130,000 per year

**Q26: How much is paid for Montana state land leases?** Respondent skipped this question

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**Q27: Are there additional taxes paid in Montana in conjunction with the project that you feel the committee should include in its analysis?**

Yes,

Please list those taxes and the year and amount paid  
Because all of the owners of Gordon Butte are Montana residents there will be additional income tax revenue generated from the project.

**Q28: Have community donations or additional financial contributions been made in the Montana community where the project is located?**

Yes,

If yes, please list. Harlow ton Rodeo

**Q29: Please provide any additional thoughts on how the project has contributed to Montana or your local economy?**

The project has contributed to the state and local economies by hiring and contracting with Montana based business's. Because it is a CREP it creates additional tax revenue for the state from income taxes that would otherwise go to out of state entities.

**Q30: Has Montana's renewable energy standard assisted in leveraging Montana's competitive advantage in developing new electric transmission?**

No,

Please elaborate on why or why not?  
The RPS has not contributed to developing new electric transmission. Although projects that have been built in Montana have contributed to upgrades and improvements to the electric transmission system in Montana, the upgrades only benefit a specific project and do not allow for additional renewable generation to be tapped or exported. Essentially the projects make relatively minor improvements to the grid but do not leverage Montana's competitive advantage in developing more resources.

**Q31: Please provide any additional thoughts on Montana's Renewable Portfolio Standard**

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q32: FINAL SUBMISSION: All questions are complete and this survey is ready for submission (select no if you wish to return and complete this survey later).**

Yes