Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

January 2008

Our Mission

The Division's mission centers around promoting and developing additional energy distribution capacity so that potential jobs become actual jobs and Montana's tax base is further enhanced for the benefit of its citizens. Increased distribution capacity also paves the way for clean, green energy creation and utilization. We will work to facilitate the promotion and development of energy infrastructure that will allow the responsible development of Montana's abundant energy resources including wind, bio-fuels, geothermal, biomass and clean coal gasification, liquefaction and power production which use carbon sequestration technologies when possible.

Harvesting Clean Energy 2009

- EIPD staff serve on planning committee of large, annual event
- Will be held in Billings, Montana in January 2009
- Conference focuses on wind and bio-fuel energy

EIPD Continues to Explore Montana's Geothermal Potential

- Montana Mission to Iceland
- Possible March 2008
- Geothermal producers, legislators, governmental officials
- Projects throughout Butte, Helena, and Bozeman

Malmstrom AFB and Coal to Liquid

- Community and Industry events- January 30-31, 2008
  - EIPD will help facilitate
- "This plant will meet state and federal safety standards and will be designed to minimize environment impact by using state-of-the-art clean coal technology."

William Anderson,
Assistant Secretary of the Air Force

EIPD On The Road

Idaho Falls, Idaho National Laboratory Tour with Governor Schweitzer and First Lady Nancy Schweitzer

Portland, Harvesting Clean Energy 2008
Las Vegas, Geothermal Energy Association workshop
Jackson Hole, Senior Executive Energy Summit
Portland, Northern Tier Transmission Group Meeting

Town Hall Meetings

EIPD to conduct a series of Town Hall Meetings aimed at educating public on wind development in Montana

Coal Bed Methane

- EIPD organizes event for Governor Schweitzer to educate CBM developers on a more environmentally friendly process
- Environmental community well represented and welcomed at the table

More Wind Power Online

Billings Gazette

MDU's new wind farm spins out power

BAKER - A wind farm southeast of here started generating power Saturday and could be fully operational by the end of the month.

Montana Dakota Resources Group is building the Diamond Willow wind farm, which at completion will include 13 wind turbines with a total capacity of 191/2 megawatts. **That's enough energy to power about 7,000 residences**, MDU spokesman Mark Hanson said…

Governor's Wind Coalition

- Governors Pawlenty and Richardson Announce Formation of Governors Windpower Coalition
- EIPD to serve on coalition with other state officials
- Promote the increased use of wind energy in America

Western Climate Initiative

- Montana joins Western Climate Initiative to develop regional strategies to address climate change
- EIPD to serve on committee with other state officials

Montana Alberta Tie Ltd

- DOE promises EIS release in February
- Governor to call Secretary of Energy to urge timely completion
- Partners praise EIPD to Governor

Mountain States Transmission Intertie and 500 kV upgrades

- EIPD to meet with officials next week on both of these topics
- Proposed natural gas fired peaker plant will compliment wind energy development that will utilize these lines

Northern Lights

- EIPD starting to see more support from West Coast regarding multi-state transmission lines in order to meet RPS goals
- Developers emphasizing wind to fill line

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