

SENATE BILL NO. 65

INTRODUCED BY V. JACKSON

BY REQUEST OF THE ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS INTERIM COMMITTEE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT MODIFYING THE PROCESS FOR REVISING THE STATE ENERGY POLICY; AMENDING SECTION 90-4-1003, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 90-4-1003, MCA, is amended to read:

"90-4-1003. Energy policy development process. (1) ~~(a) Except as provided for in subsection (1)(b), each interim Before September 15 of the year preceding a legislative session AT THE FIRST INTERIM COMMITTEE MEETING HELD DURING EACH INTERIM,~~ the energy and telecommunications interim committee established in 5-5-230 shall review the state energy policy and, if determined necessary by the committee, discuss AT FUTURE MEETINGS issues to be included in a revised policy and recommend potential changes to the state energy policy, pursuant to subsection (2).

~~(b) During the 2009-2010 interim, the committee shall consult with a broad representation of stakeholders, including appropriate state agencies and the public, and focus on the following issues to be included in a revised state energy policy:~~

- ~~—— (i) increasing the supply of low-cost electricity with coal-fired generation;~~
- ~~—— (ii) rebuilding and extending electric transmission lines;~~
- ~~—— (iii) maximizing state land use for energy generation;~~
- ~~—— (iv) increasing energy efficiency standards for new construction;~~
- ~~—— (v) promoting conservation;~~
- ~~—— (vi) promoting energy efficiency incentives;~~
- ~~—— (vii) promoting alternative energy systems;~~
- ~~—— (viii) reducing regulations that increase ratepayers' energy costs; and~~
- ~~—— (ix) integrating wind energy.~~

(2) ~~Except as provided in subsection (1)(b), the~~ If the committee decides to discuss issues to be included in a revised policy and recommend potential changes, it shall consult with a broad representation of stakeholders,

1 including appropriate state agencies and the public, in developing the ~~issues to be included within the~~ proposed;
2 revised state energy policy ~~each interim~~.

3 (3) ~~Each biennium, the~~ The IF REVISIONS TO THE STATE ENERGY POLICY ARE PROPOSED BY THE COMMITTEE,
4 THEN BEFORE SEPTEMBER 15 OF THE YEAR PRECEDING A LEGISLATIVE SESSION, THE committee shall forward its
5 recommendations for a proposed revised state energy policy to the legislature and to the appropriate state
6 agencies for adoption.

7 (4) In carrying out its responsibilities under this section, the committee shall use its interim budget, as
8 allocated by the legislative council, and rely on the input of locally available experts and staff research to
9 accomplish its responsibilities."

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11 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Effective date. [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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