



# Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

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66th Montana Legislature

## SENATE MEMBERS

JANET ELLIS  
MARY McNALLY  
KEITH REGIER  
TOM RICHMOND

## HOUSE MEMBERS

LAURIE BISHOP  
DENISE HAYMAN  
CHRISTOPHER POPE  
DEREK SKEES  
BRAD TSCHIDA  
DANIEL ZOLNIKOV

## COMMITTEE STAFF

TREVOR GRAFF, Lead Staff  
JAMESON WALKER, Staff Attorney  
NADINE SPENCER, Secretary

## Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee State Capitol, Room 172 8:00 a.m., Wednesday, July 15

### DRAFT AGENDA

AGENDA TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE

8:00 a.m.

**Call to order**

8:05 a.m.

### **HJ 12: Transmission Infrastructure Study**

1. Introduction – Mr. Graff
2. Grid Capacity and Energy Development
  - a. Bill Pascoe, Pascoe Energy Consulting
  - b. Brian Dekiep, Northwest Power and Conservation Council
  - c. Andrew McLain, NorthWestern Energy
3. Western Imbalance Market
  - a. Joe Stimatz, NorthWestern Energy asset optimization manager
4. Public Comment
5. Questions from the committee
6. Committee action, if any

10:00 a.m.

**BREAK**

11:00 a.m.

### **5G Communications Development in Montana**

1. Introduction – Mr. Graff
2. Dr. Eric Swanson, University of Pittsburgh
3. Public Comment
4. Questions from the Committee
5. Committee action, if any

- 12:00 p.m.           **LUNCH**
- 1:00 p.m.           **Energy Storage in Montana Impacts**
1. Introduction – Mr. Graff
  2. Mark Klein -- Broad Reach Power
  3. Carl Borgquist, Randy Hardy -- Absaroka Energy
  4. Public Comment
  5. Questions
  6. Committee action, if any
- 2:00 p.m.           **Public Service Commission Study**
1. Introduction – Mr. Graff
  2. Advocacy Staff Bill Draft
  3. Public Comment
  4. Questions from the Committee
  5. Committee Action, if any
- 2:30 p.m.           BREAK
- 3:15 p.m.           **PSC Update**
1. PSC
  2. Public Comment
  3. Questions from the Committee
  4. Committee action, if any
- 3:45 p.m.           **PSC Legislative Proposals**
1. Overview -- Mr. Graff
  2. Public Comment
  3. Questions from the Committee
  4. Committee Action, if any
- 4:45 p.m.           **Administrative Rule Review**
1. Introduction -- Mr. Walker
  2. Questions from Committee
  3. Public Comment
  4. Committee action, if any
- 4:55 p.m.           **Public Comment** on matters within the jurisdiction of the ETIC
- 5:10 p.m.           **Recess**

## Thursday, July 16

- 8:00 a.m.            **Call to Order**
- 8:05 a.m.            **Montana Climate Solutions Council**
1. Introduction -- Mr. Graff
  2. Council recommendations -- Patrick Holmes, Montana Governor's Office
  3. Public Comment
  4. Questions from the committee
  5. Committee action, if any
- 8:30 a.m.            **Environmental Quality Council Update** -- Mr. Kolman
- 8:35 a.m.            **Call Before You Dig Update**
1. Introduction -- Mr. Graff
  2. Tim Lloyd -- Bureau Chief, Building Codes Bureau, DOLI
  3. Doug Hardy -- Underground Facility Protection Council
  4. Public Comment
  5. Questions from the committee
  6. Committee action, if any
- 9:00 a.m.            **High-Performance Building Program Update (17-7-214, MCA)**
1. Overview -- Russ Katherman, Department of Administration
  2. Public Comment
  3. Questions from the committee
  4. Direction to staff on continued reporting
  5. Committee action, if any
- 9:30 a.m.            Break
- 10:30 a.m.           **Military Installations and Wind Farm Sighting**
1. Introduction -- Mr. Graff
  2. 20th Air Force Panel
    - a. Col. Russell Williford, Vice Commander, 341st Missile Wing, Malmstrom Air Force Base
    - b. Lt. Col. Michael Toomer, Deputy Staff Judge Advocate, 20th Air Force
    - b. Ron Tickle, Executive Director, Department of Defense Military Aviation and Installation Assurance Siting Clearinghouse
  3. Public Comment

4. Questions from the committee
5. Committee Action, if any

12:00 p.m.

**LUNCH**

1:00 p.m.

**HB 597 (2019) Cleanup Legislation**

1. Overview -- Mr. Graff
2. Public Comment
3. Questions from the Committee
4. Committee Action, if any

1:30 p.m.

**Railroad Right of Way Issues**

1. Overview -- Mr. Graff
2. Geoff Feiss -- Montana Telecommunications Association
3. Kirk Lundby -- Montana Electric Cooperatives' Assoc.
4. Ross Lane, Joe Gentry -- Montana Rail Link
5. Matt Jones, Blaine Bilderback -- BNSF
6. Public Comment
7. Questions from the Committee
8. Committee Action, if any

2:30 p.m.

Break

3:30 p.m.

**E-Rate Program Proposed Legislation**

1. Overview -- Mr. Graff
2. Paul Taylor -- Office of Public Instruction
3. Draft proposal
4. Public Comment
5. Questions from the Committee
6. Committee Action, if any

4:30 p.m.

**Public Comment** on matters within the jurisdiction of the ETIC

4:35 p.m.

**Other Business/Instructions to Staff**

1. Review of Committee Budget
2. Review of August Meeting Items

5:00 p.m.

**Adjourn**

Public comment provided in person at a committee meeting is a public record that is videotaped, archived, and available on the Internet. Public comment submitted in writing at a committee meeting is a public record that will be posted to the legislative website as part of the minutes log for the committee meeting. The Legislative Services Division will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities who wish to participate in this public meeting. If you require an accommodation, please contact Trevor Graff at 406- 444-4975 or Trevor.Graff@mt.gov at least 5 working days before the meeting date to discuss the nature of the accommodation you need.

#### **\*Public Participation Information**

- Due to COVID-19 public health concerns, members who do not wish to physically attend meetings in the State Capitol Building can join the meeting via Zoom videoconference.
- The meeting will be streamed live on [www.leg.mt.gov](http://www.leg.mt.gov) and broadcast on the Montana Public Affairs Network (MPAN) if you wish to view it only. An archived recording of the meeting will also be made immediately available on [www.leg.mt.gov](http://www.leg.mt.gov).
- Members of the public who want to offer public comment may join the meeting for public comment periods. To offer public comment, please contact Trevor Graff at Trevor.Graff@mt.gov by 5 p.m. on July 14 with the following:
  - your name;
  - the agenda item(s) for which you wish to offer public comment; and
  - whether you'll provide comment by telephone or via your computer.

You'll receive instructions for joining and participating in the meeting. During the public comment periods, people who have joined the meeting may "raise their hand" and participate after being recognized by the presiding officer or the meeting host. Comments will be taken in order received. The presiding officer may limit the amount of time provided for public comment.

- Written public comment provided in advance of the meeting is accepted and encouraged. Written comments may be sent to Trevor.Graff@mt.gov. Any oral or written public comment provided to the committee is a public record that is recorded, archived, and available on the web.
- The Montana Legislative Services Division will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities who wish to participate. For questions about accessibility or to request accommodations, please contact committee staff at Trevor.Graff@mt.gov or 406-444-4975.