

**MINUTES**

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL RELATIONS, ENERGY, AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN ALAN OLSON**, on January 24, 2007 at  
3:00 P.M., in Room 172 Capitol.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Alan Olson, Chairman (R)  
Rep. George G. Groesbeck, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Harry Klock, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Scott Boggio (R)  
Rep. Robyn Driscoll (D)  
Rep. Dave Gallik (D)  
Rep. Dennis Himmelberger (R)  
Rep. Llew Jones (R)  
Rep. Diane Rice (R)  
Rep. Wayne Stahl (R)  
Rep. Bill Thomas (D)  
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Todd Everts, Legislative Branch  
Cindy Peterson, Committee Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HJ 6, 1/15/2007; HB 301, 1/15/2007;  
HB 330, 1/17/2007; HB 25, 1/17/2007  
Executive Action: None.

**HEARING ON HJ 6**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:55 Rep. Mike Phillips (D), HD 66, opened the hearing on HJ 6, urge agriculture to produce 25% of energy consumed by 2025.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:07:22 Peggy Beltrone, Cascade County Commissioner

**EXHIBIT (feh16a01)**

00:10:08 Ray Beck, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

00:11:15 Anne Millbrooke, Historian

00:16:53 Katie Kassmier, Montana Farmers' Union

00:18:24 Art Compton, Department of Environmental Quality

**EXHIBIT (feh16a02)**

0:19:25 Joel A. Clairmont, Deputy Director, Department of Agriculture

**EXHIBIT (feh16a03)**

00:20:28 Chuck Mcgraw, Natural Resource Defense Council

00:22:17 Patrick Judge, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

00:22:59 Rep. Shannon Augare, HD 16, Browning

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:23:44 Rep. Rice

00:24:02 Rep. Phillips

00:24:15 Ms. Beltrone

00:25:01 Rep. Rice

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:25:15 Rep. Phillips

**HEARING ON HB 330**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:27:48 Rep. Bob Bergren (D), HD 33, opened the hearing on HB 330, clean and renewable energy bonding.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:31:18 Mike Anderson, Hill County Commissioner, representing  
Hill and Blaine Counties  
00:34:23 John Prinkki, Montana Association of Counties and a  
Carbon County Commissioner.

**EXHIBIT (feh16a04)**

00:36:09 Philip Hathaway, Commissioner, Sweet Grass County

**EXHIBIT (feh16a05)**

00:38:02 Edwin Meece, Livingston City Manager  
00:38:46 Alec Hansen, Montana League of Cities and Towns  
00:39:47 Claude Matney, Matney Engineering, Bozeman  
00:41:53 James Klessens, Two Rivers, Hardin  
00:42:50 Tom Horan, City Councilman, Harlowton.  
00:43:56 Jason Gibson, Mayor, Harlem  
00:44:45 Annmarie Robinson, Bear Paw Development  
00:45:22 Chris Mehus, Beartooth Research, Conservation &  
Development

**EXHIBIT (feh16a06)**

00:46:26 Bill Kennedy, Yellowstone County Commissioner  
00:47:02 Mike Costanti, Matney Engineering, Bozeman  
00:49:21 Russ Doty, Green Electricity Buying Co-operative

**EXHIBIT (feh16a07)**

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:51:53 John Fitzpatrick, Northwestern Energy

**EXHIBIT (feh16a08)**

**EXHIBIT (feh16a09)**

01:01:29 Brad Molnar, Commissioner, Montana Public Service  
Commission (PSC)

**Informational Testimony:**

01:06:19 Greg Jergeson, Chairman, PSC

**EXHIBIT (feh16a10)**

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:08:52 Rep. Jones  
01:09:30 Rep. Bergren  
01:10:35 Rep. Jones  
01:10:39 Rep. Bergren  
01:10:59 Rep. Jones  
01:11:22 Rep. Bergren  
01:12:28 Rep. Stahl  
01:13:24 Mae Nan Ellingson, Dorsey & Whitney, Missoula  
01:14:24 Rep. Stahl

01:15:02 Ms. Ellingson  
01:15:53 Rep. Stahl  
01:17:00 Ms. Ellingson  
01:21:00 Rep. Stahl  
01:22:49 Ms. Ellingson  
01:24:29 Rep. Stahl  
01:25:12 Mr. Hansen  
01:25:33 Rep. Groesbeck  
01:26:32 Ms. Ellingson  
01:26:44 Rep. Groesbeck  
01:27:31 Ms. Ellingson  
01:28:40 Rep. Groesbeck  
01:30:26 Rep. Bergren  
01:31:14 Rep. Jones  
01:32:47 Mr. Jergeson  
01:33:35 Rep. Jones  
01:33:58 Mr. Jergeson  
01:35:16 Rep. Himmelberger  
01:35:44 Mr. Molnar  
01:38:41 Rep. Olson  
01:39:51 Rep. Bergren

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:40:50 Rep. Bergren  
[EXHIBIT \(feh16a11\)](#)

**HEARING ON HB 301**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:52:50 Rep. Michele Reinhart (D), HD 97, opened the hearing on  
HB 301, secure and sustainable energy policy act.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

02:00:24 Katie Kassmier, Montana Farmers' Union  
02:02:47 Patrick Judge, MEIC  
02:04:10 Beth Kaeding, Northern Plains Resource Council  
02:05:39 Terry Kendrick, Policy Institute  
02:06:18 Ann Wilsnack, representing herself  
02:07:37 Russ Doty, Green Electricity Buying Co-operative  
02:10:26 Jennifer Hill-Hart, Helena  
[EXHIBIT \(feh16a12\)](#)  
02:12:17 Molly Immen, Montana Audubon  
[EXHIBIT \(feh16a13\)](#)

02:12:54 Cedion Jones, Montanans for Corporate Accountability  
02:14:46 Derf Johnson, Montana Public Interest Research Group

**Opponents' Testimony:**

02:15:23 Doug Hardy, Montana Electric Cooperatives Association  
[EXHIBIT \(feh16a14\)](#)  
02:17:35 Donald Quander, representing himself  
02:24:51 John Fitzpatrick, Northwestern Energy  
02:26:43 Don Allen, Western Environmental Trade Association

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:28:58 Rep. Reinhart

**HEARING ON HB 25**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:33:58 Rep. Alan Olson (R), HD 45, opened the hearing on HB 25, generally revise electric industry restructuring laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

02:37:29 John Fitzpatrick, Northwestern Energy  
[EXHIBIT \(feh16a15\)](#)  
02:46:06 Russ Doty, Green Electricity Buying Cooperative

**Opponents' Testimony:**

02:49:54 Doug Mood, Vice Chairman, PSC  
[EXHIBIT \(feh16a16\)](#)  
02:55:41 David Hoffman, PPL Montana  
03:02:08 Colleen Balzarini, City of Great Falls  
[EXHIBIT \(feh16a17\)](#)  
03:05:37 Steve North, Great Falls Development Authority  
03:07:10 Jeff Mangan, Great Falls International Airport Authority  
[EXHIBIT \(feh16a18\)](#)  
03:09:44 Bob Nelson, Montana Consumer Counsel

**Informational Testimony:**

03:14:14 Don Quander, Montana Large Customer Group  
03:18:47 John Alke, Montana Dakota Utilities

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

03:20:03 Rep. Jones  
03:24:52 Mr. Mood

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:25:16 Rep. Olson

**Additional Exhibits:**

[EXHIBIT \(feh16a19\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(feh16a20\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(feh16a21\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(feh16a22\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(feh16a23\)](#)

**ADJOURNMENT**

03:29:43 Adjournment.

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REP. ALAN OLSON, Chairman

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CINDY PETERSON, Secretary

AO/cp

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([feh16aad.pdf](#))**