

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: By Chairman Walter McNutt, on February 2, 2007 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 472 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Walter McNutt, Chairman (R)
Rep. Ron Erickson, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Ralph Heinert, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Duane Ankney (R)
Rep. Debby Barrett (R)
Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)
Rep. Sue Dickenson (D)
Rep. Betsy Hands (D)
Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick (R)
Rep. Carol Lambert (R)
Rep. Scott Mendenhall (R)
Rep. JP Pomnichowski (D)
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)
Rep. Veronica Small-Eastman (D)
Rep. Kendall Van Dyk (D)
Rep. Chas Vincent (R)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Krista Lee Evans, Legislative Branch
Nancy Kraft, 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: HB 261, 1/23/2007; HB 282,
1/23/2007; HB 291, 1/16/2007; HB
473, 1/31/2007

Executive Action: None

HEARING ON HB 291

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:50 Rep. John (Jack) Ross (R), HD 60, opened the hearing on HB 291, Exempt commercial AG grinders from air quality permit requirements.

[EXHIBIT\(nah23a01\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:04:42 Bob Story, Senate District 30

00:07:16 Diane Rice, House District 71

00:08:44 Steve Pilcher, Montana Stockgrowers' Association

00:10:26 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau

00:11:22 Dave Kelsey

00:12:21 Pat Torgerson, Women Involved in Farm Economics (WIFE)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:13:16 Rep. Erickson

[EXHIBIT\(nah23a02\)](#)

00:13:57 Jonathan Matthews, Montana Sierra Club

[EXHIBIT\(nah23a03\)](#)

Informational Testimony:

00:16:18 Ann Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:17:50 Rep. Erickson

00:18:00 Rep. Ross

00:19:08 Rep. McNutt

00:19:36 Mr. Matthews

00:21:27 Rep. McNutt

00:22:13 Ms. Hedges

00:22:52 David Klemp, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

00:24:10 Rep. Cohenour

00:24:48 Mr. Klemp

00:25:15 Rep. Cohenour

00:25:26 Ms. Hedges

00:25:47 Rep. Cohenour

00:26:01 Rep. Ross

00:26:55 Krista Evans

00:27:14 Rep. Barrett

00:27:42 Mr. Klemp

Closing by Sponsor:

00:28:39 Rep. Ross

HEARING ON HB 473

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:29:13 Rep. John (Jack) Ross (R), HD 60, opened the hearing on HB 473, Eliminate water adjudication fee.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:33:42 Steve Pilcher, Montana Stockgrowers' Association
00:35:07 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau
00:35:28 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association
00:36:18 Mike Volesky, Governor's Office
00:38:11 Mark Aagenes, Montana Trout Unlimited
00:38:29 Pat Torgerson, Women Involved in Farm Economics (WIFE)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:39:20 Rep. Dickenson
00:41:16 John Tubbs, Department of Natural Resources and
Conservation (DNRC)
00:43:40 Rep. Cohenour
00:44:09 Rep. Ross

Closing by Sponsor:

00:44:32 Rep. Ross

HEARING ON HB 261

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:46:46 Rep. Mike Jopek (D), HD 4, opened the hearing on HB 261, Mercury disposal standards.

[EXHIBIT \(nah23a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(nah23a05\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:01:20 Aaron Thompson, Women's Voices for the Earth

01:07:17 Mary McHugh, Montana Dental Association

[EXHIBIT \(nah23a06\)](#)

01:16:27 Mary Gettel

01:17:06 Anna Peterson, MEIC

[EXHIBIT \(nah23a07\)](#)

01:19:18 Jill Frazier, Dentist, Missoula, Montana

01:25:05 Jonie Fader

01:30:37 Dan O'Neill, Montana Dental Association

01:32:21 Wade Sikorski

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:33:41 Ed Thamke, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

01:34:06 John Fitzpatrick, Western Environmental Trade
Association (WETA)

[EXHIBIT \(nah23a08\)](#)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:36:37 Rep. Barrett

01:37:11 Mr. O'Neill

Closing by Sponsor:

01:37:48 Rep. Jopek

01:42:37 Break

HEARING ON HB 282

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:56:40 Rep. Ron Erickson (D), HD 93, opened the hearing on HB
282, Sequestration to slow global warming.

[EXHIBIT \(nah23a09\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

02:02:52 Professor Steve Running, Professor, University of
Montana

[EXHIBIT \(nah23a10\)](#)

02:07:16 Professor Aart Dolman, Professor, Troy State University

02:12:34 Ann Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center
(MEIC)

EXHIBIT (nah23a11)

02:18:45 Jonathan Mathews, Montana Sierra Club

EXHIBIT (nah23a12)

02:26:19 Reverend Brady Vardemann, Montana Association of Churches

02:29:04 Sara Cobler, Montana Conservation Voters

02:30:58 Matt Leow, Montana Public Interest Research Group (Mont PIRG)

EXHIBIT (nah23a13)

02:39:43 Wade Sikorski

02:42:25 Mark Aagenes, Montana Trout Unlimited

02:45:35 Molly Immen, Montana Audubon

EXHIBIT (nah23a14)

02:46:46 Mike Phillips, House District 66

02:48:06 Bob Raney

Opponents' Testimony:

02:53:55 Todd O'Hair, Rio Tinto Energy America

02:59:40 Mark Lambrecht, Pacific Power, and Light, Montana (PPL)

EXHIBIT (nah23a15)

03:04:00 Bud Clinch, Montana Coal Council

03:07:40 Candace Payne, Southern Montana Electric Generation and Transmission Cooperative, Inc.

03:09:44 Terry Holzer, Governor's Climate Change Committee

03:11:22 Dave Kelsey, Yellowstone Valley Electric, Governor's Climate Change Committee

03:14:29 Don Allen, Western Environmental Trade Association (WETA)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

03:16:17 Rep. Cohenour

03:16:55 Mr. Lambrecht

03:17:55 Rep. Cohenour

03:18:07 Rep. Erickson

03:18:44 Rep. Ross

03:19:16 Ms. Hedges

03:19:24 Rep. Dickenson

03:20:15 Professor Running

03:22:18 Rep. Dickenson

03:22:40 Mr. Raney

03:23:27 Rep. Ankney

03:23:51 Mr. Raney

03:24:28 Rep. Ankney

03:25:59 Professor Running

03:26:54 Rep. Ankney

03:27:28 Ms. Hedges
03:28:03 Rep. Hands
03:28:31 Mr. Raney
03:28:58 David Klemp, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
03:30:02 Rep. Hands
03:30:57 Mr. Raney
03:34:28 Rep. Barrett
03:35:47 Mr. Lambrecht
03:36:36 Rep. Vincent
03:37:07 Mr. Lambrecht
03:38:08 Rep. Small-Eastman
03:38:36 Mr. O'Hair
03:39:12 Rep. McNutt
03:39:48 Rep. Hands
03:40:45 Professor Running

Closing by Sponsor:

03:43:42 Rep. Erickson

Additional Exhibits:

Documents Pertaining to Proposed Committee Bill/Resolution on
Federal Mineral Royalty Revenue Payments Hearing Date 1/31/07

EXHIBIT (nah23a16)

ADJOURNMENT

03:47:45 Adjournment: 6:40 P.M.

REP. WALTER MCNUTT, Chairman

NANCY KRAFT, Secretary

WM/nk

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([nah23aad.pdf](#))