

MINUTES

**MONTANA SENATE
60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN GREG LIND**, on February 12, 2007 at 3:30 P.M., in Room 422 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Greg Lind, Chairman (D)
Sen. Aubyn Curtiss (R)
Sen. Kelly Gebhardt (R)
Sen. Dan Harrington (D)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Gary L. Perry (R)
Sen. Bill Tash (R)
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)
Sen. David E. Wanzenried (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Claudia Johnson, Committee Secretary
Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch

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: SB 195, 2/6/2007; SB 442, 2/9/2007
Executive Action: SB 218

00:00:35 Vice Chair Sen. Wanzenried

HEARING ON SB 195

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:03 **SEN. GREG LIND (D), SD 50**, opened the hearing on **SB 195**, Reregulate electric utilities.

EXHIBIT(nas31a01)

Proponents:

00:09:16 Ken Toole, Self

EXHIBIT(nas31a02)

00:18:23 Bob Nelson, Montana Consumer Counsel (MCC)

00:26:54 Terry Kendrick, Policy Institute

00:32:45 Jeff Barber, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

00:34:25 Matt Leow, Montana Public Interest Research Group (MONT PIRG)

Opponents:

00:36:07 Greg Jergeson, Montana Public Service Commission (PSC)

EXHIBIT(nas31a03)

00:45:12 Pat Corcoran, Northwestern Energy (NWE)

00:53:00 Tom Power, Economist

EXHIBIT(nas31a04)

00:53:09 Mark Lambrecht, Manager, Regulatory Affairs, PPL of Montana

EXHIBIT(nas31a05)

00:55:34 John Watson, City Manager, Great Falls

EXHIBIT(nas31a06)

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:01:22 Sen. Harrington to Greg Jergeson, PSC

01:05:00 Sen. Harrington to Ken Toole, PSC

01:10:20 Sen. Wanzenried to Pat Corcoran, NWE

01:10:59 Sen. Wanzenried to Ken Toole, PSC

01:14:03 Sen. Wanzenried to Sen. Lind

01:16:18 Sen. Perry to Sen. Lind

Closing by Sponsor:

01:18:47 Sen. Lind

Discussion:

01:25:01 Sen. Wanzenried

HEARING ON SB 442

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:25:38 **SEN. CHRISTINE KAUFMANN (D), SD 41**, opened the hearing on **SB 442**, Revise environmental laws for abandoned mines reclamation.

Proponents:

01:29:28 Sandi Olsen, Remediation and Environmental Quality Division, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

[EXHIBIT\(nas31a07\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nas31a08\)](#)

01:32:54 Julia Page, Beartooth Alliance

Opponents: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:35:14 Sen. Gebhardt to Sandi Olsen, DNRC

01:38:42 Sen. Curtiss to Sandi Olsen, DNRC

01:40:09 Sen. Tash to Sandi Olsen, DNRC

Closing by Sponsor:

01:42:14 Sen. Kaufmann

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 218

01:44:11 **Motion:** SEN. HARRINGTON moved that SB 218 DO PASS.

Discussion:

01:44:53 **Motion:** SEN. HARRINGTON moved that AMENDMENT
SB021801.AJK BE ADOPTED.

EXHIBIT (nas31a09)

Discussion:

01:45:13 Joe Kolman, LSD

01:50:01 Sen. Perry to Joe Kolman

01:58:35 Sen. Tropila to Joe Kolman

02:00:08 Sen. Tash to Dave Galt, Executive Director, Montana
Petroleum Association

02:02:28 Sen. Perry

02:02:47 **Sen. Harrington withdrew his motion on SB 218 and
amendments.**

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:35 P.M.

SEN. GREG LIND, Chairman

CLAUDIA JOHNSON, Secretary

GL/cj

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([nas31aad.pdf](#))