

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 62nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Alan Olson, on March 15, 2011 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Alan Olson, Chair (R)
Sen. Verdell Jackson, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Shannon Augare (D)
Sen. Jeff Essmann (R)
Sen. Bob Lake (R)
Sen. Lynda Moss (D)
Sen. Jason Priest (R)
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)
Sen. Edward Walker (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Ron Erickson (D)
Sen. Chas Vincent (R)
Sen. Kendall Van Dyk (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Branch
Liane Taylor, 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.

HEARING ON HB 295**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:00 Rep. Rob Cook (R), HD 27, opened the hearing on HB 295, Defining and recording wind energy rights.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:54 Mona Jamison, representing Gaelectric (GA)
00:04:53 Clayton Elliott, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:05:43 Sen. Moss
00:06:14 Rep. Cook, HD 27
00:06:33 Mona Jamison, GA
00:07:02 Sen. Tropila
00:08:16 Mona Jamison
00:09:14 Sen. Essmann
00:09:35 Rep. Cook
00:10:48 Sen. Essmann
00:11:04 Rep. Cook
00:11:34 Sen. Essmann
00:11:52 Rep. Cook
00:12:09 Sen. Tropila
00:12:30 Mona Jamison
00:13:18 Sen. Augare
00:14:16 Rep. Cook
00:14:36 Sen. Tropila
00:14:53 Sonja Nowakowski, LSD
00:15:44 Sen. Tropila
00:16:38 Rep. Cook
00:16:43 Sen. Essmann
00:17:05 Rep. Cook
00:17:45 Sen. Essmann
00:18:12 Rep. Cook
00:19:18 Sen. Essmann
00:19:49 Sen. Tropila
00:20:12 Mona Jamison
00:21:20 Sen. Tropila
00:21:47 Mona Jamison
00:22:40 Sen. Priest
00:23:22 Mona Jamison
00:24:19 Sen. Priest
00:25:11 Mona Jamison

Closing by Sponsor:

00:25:52 Rep. Cook

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 295

00:26:42 **Motion:** Sen. Augare moved that **HB 295 BE CONCURRED IN**. Sen. Augare withdrew the motion.

HEARING ON HB 291

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:27:23 Rep. Jon Sesso (D), HD 76, opened the hearing on HB 291, Provide refund of utility extension costs when subsequent users connect to line.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:32:12 Mark Rule, self

Opponents' Testimony:

00:38:40 John Fitzpatrick, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)

Informational Testimony:

00:45:44 Commissioner Bill Gallagher, Public Service Commission (PSC)

EXHIBIT(ens58a01)

00:52:02 Doug Hardy, Montana Rural Electric Cooperatives (MREC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:52:31 Sen. Essmann
00:53:45 John Fitzpatrick, NWE
00:53:53 Sen. Essmann
00:55:13 John Fitzpatrick
00:55:19 Sen. Walker
00:55:48 Rep. Sesso, HD 76
00:59:19 Sen. Moss
01:00:06 Rep. Sesso
01:02:30 Sen. Essmann
01:03:09 Rep. Sesso
01:04:24 Sen. Essmann
01:05:02 Rep. Sesso

Closing by Sponsor:

01:07:00 Rep. Sesso

ADJOURNMENT

01:12:36 Adjournment:

Liane Taylor, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([ens58aad.pdf](#))