

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 63rd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Alan Olson, on February 7, 2013 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Alan Olson, Chair (R)
Sen. Verdell Jackson, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Ron Arthun (R)
Sen. Robyn Driscoll (D)
Sen. Greg Jergeson (D)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Jason Priest (R)
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)
Sen. Chas Vincent (R)
Sen. Edward Walker (R)

Members Excused:

Sen. Jeff Essmann (R)
Sen. Llew Jones (R)
Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Julie Emge, Committee Secretary
Sonja Nowakowski, 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 125, 2/4/2013

Executive Action: SB 106: Do Pass as Amended
SB 180: Do Pass as Amended

HEARING ON SB 125

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:11:40 Sen. Alan Olson (R), SD 23, opened the hearing on SB 125, Revising penalties for failure to meet renewable energy requirements.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:12:39 John Fitzpatrick, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:21:30 Van Jamison, Vice President, Gaelectric LLC (GAEL)

00:25:36 Kyla Maki, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

00:28:23 Ben Brouwer, representing Montana Renewable Energy Association (MREA),
Montana Alternative Energy Resources Organization (AERO)

EXHIBIT(ens27a01)

00:33:43 Marty Wilde, WINData LLC

EXHIBIT(ens27a02)

00:41:32 Rick Jarrett, representing himself

00:43:30 Clayton Elliott, representing Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)

00:45:59 Jeff Fox, Montana Policy Manager, Renewable Northwest Project (RNP)

00:50:00 Sen. Larsen entered the hearing.

00:53:14 Sam Thompson, Montana Public Interest Research Group (MPIRG)

00:54:19 Ross Prosperi, Montana Conservation Voters (MCV)

Informational Testimony:

00:54:49 Bill Gallagher, Chairman, Montana Public Service Commission (MPSC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:58:13 Sen. Arthun

00:58:29 Mr. Jamison, GAEL

01:00:58 Sen. Arthun

01:01:16 Mr. Gallagher, MPSC

01:01:48 Sen. Kaufmann

01:05:23 Mr. Fitzpatrick, NWE

01:09:08 Sen. Kaufmann

01:10:00 Sen. Olson

01:14:37 Sen. Jergeson

01:20:09 Mr. Jamison

01:20:38 Sen. Tropila

01:23:11 Mr. Wilde, WINData

01:25:08 Sen. Tropila
01:25:50 Mr. Fox, RNP
01:27:40 Sen. Tropila
01:34:03 Mr. Gallagher

Closing by Sponsor:

01:34:37 Sen. Olson

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 106

01:38:40 **Motion:** Sen. Jergeson moved that **SB 106 DO PASS.**

01:39:03 **Motion:** Sen. Jackson moved that **SB 106 BE AMENDED.**
[EXHIBIT\(ens27a03\)](#)

Discussion:

01:39:21 Sen. Jergeson

01:39:50 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Essmann and Sen. Jones voted by proxy.

01:40:07 **Motion:** Sen. Jergeson moved that **SB 106 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

01:41:31 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Essmann and Sen. Jones voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 180

01:43:00 **Motion:** Sen. Jackson moved that **SB 180 DO PASS.**

01:43:23 **Motion:** Sen. Tropila moved that **SB 180 BE AMENDED.**
[EXHIBIT\(ens27a04\)](#)

Discussion:

01:43:45 Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

01:44:10 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Essmann and Sen. Jones voted by proxy.

01:44:28 **Motion:** Sen. Tropila moved that **SB 180 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

01:44:42 Chairman Olson
01:49:16 Sen. Tropila
01:50:14 Sen. Arthun
01:50:30 Ms. Nowakowski, LSD

01:50:49 Sen. Jergeson

01:54:28 **Vote:** Motion carried 7-6 by roll call vote with Sen. Driscoll, Sen. Jackson, Sen. Jergeson, Sen. Jones, Sen. Kaufmann and Sen. Olson voting no. Sen. Essmann and Sen. Jones voted by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:55 p.m.

Julie Emge, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([ens27aad.pdf](#))