

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

**Call to Order:** Chair Duane Ankney, on March 14, 2019 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317  
Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Sen. Duane Ankney, Chair (R)  
Sen. Mary McNally, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Jason D. Small, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Dick Barrett (D)  
Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)  
Sen. Terry Gauthier (R)  
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)  
Sen. Sue Malek (D)  
Sen. Mike Phillips (D)  
Sen. Keith Regier (R)  
Sen. Tom Richmond (R)  
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)  
Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Trevor Graff, Legislative Branch  
Jacelyn Stewart, 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 487, 3/12/2019; HB 476, 3/12/2019

15:01:49 Sen. Regier

[EXHIBIT\(ens52a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(ens52a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(ens52a03\)](#)

**HEARING ON HB 487**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:02:39 Rep. Derek Skees (R), HD 11, opened the hearing on HB 487, Revise RPS to include hydropower.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:03:16 John Alke, NorthWestern Energy

15:07:38 Doug Hardy, Montana Rural Electric Cooperatives' Association

15:07:55 Cary Hegreberg, CEO, Montana Chamber of Commerce

**Opponents' Testimony:**

15:09:18 Brian Fadie, Montana Environmental Informational Center

[EXHIBIT\(ens52a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(ens52a05\)](#)

15:12:03 Cody Ferguson, Northern Plains Resource Council

15:13:23 Julian Adler, Montana Public Interest Research Group

**Informational Testimony:**

15:14:12 Robin Arnold, policy analyst, Public Service Commission

15:14:43 Chair Ankney

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

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:15:06 Rep. Skees

15:16:56 Chair Ankney turned the position and duties of the Chair over to Vice Chair Small.

**HEARING ON HB 476**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:17:15 Sen. Duane Ankney, opened the hearing on HB 476, Provide low-interest loans for coal-fired generation.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:22:14 Adam Haight, Montana American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations

15:24:57 Bob Gilbert, City of Colstrip

15:27:31 Jessie Luther, Rocky Mountain Power

**Opponents' Testimony:**

15:29:01 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Informational Center

**Informational Testimony:**

15:33:20 Dan Villa, executive director, Board of Investments (BOI)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:33:48 Sen. Phillips  
15:36:30 Mr. Villa, BOI  
15:37:07 Sen. Phillips  
15:37:46 Sen. Ankney  
15:40:38 Sen. Barrett  
15:42:15 Mr. Villa  
15:42:27 Sen. Malek  
15:44:12 Mr. Villa  
15:44:23 Sen. McNally  
15:45:58 Sen. Ankney  
15:46:17 Sen. Barrett  
15:47:12 Mr. Villa  
15:47:49 Sen. Barrett  
15:48:46 Mr. Villa  
15:49:59 Sen. Phillips

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:50:36 Sen. Ankney

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 3:54 PM

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Jacelyn Stewart, Secretary

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**Additional Document:**

Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([ens52aad.pdf](#))