

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, TECHNOLOGY AND FEDERAL RELATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Derek Skees, on February 8, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 472
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Derek Skees, Chair (R)
Rep. Denise Hayman, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Katie Zolnikov, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Michele Binkley (R)
Rep. Larry Brewster (R)
Rep. Geraldine Custer (R)
Rep. Neil Duram (R)
Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R)
Rep. Kelly Kortum (D)
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)
Rep. Bob Phalen (R)
Rep. Katie Sullivan (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present:

Brittany Bury, Committee Secretary
Trevor Graff, Legislative Branch
Taylor Eggebrecht, Remote Meeting Coordinator

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 273, 2/3/2021; SB 59, 2/3/2021

14:59:26 Chair Skees

HEARING ON SB 59

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:01:02 Sen. Mary McNally (D), SD 24, opened the hearing on SB 59, Revise laws related to integrated least-cost resource planning.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:02:30 Makenna Sellers, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)
15:03:25 Conor Ploeger, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)
15:03:54 Amiee Grmoljez, Crowley Fleck

Informational Testimony:

15:05:17 Robin Arnold, Montana Public Service Commission (PSC)

Closing by Sponsor:

15:05:59 Sen. McNally

15:06:24 Chair Skees
15:06:34 Sen. McNally
15:06:54 Vice Chair Zolnikov assumed the chair

HEARING ON HB 273

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:07:22 Rep. Derek Skees (R), HD 11, opened the hearing on HB 273, Eliminate restrictions on nuclear facility development.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:08:28 David Hoffman, North Western Energy (NWE)
15:10:39 Ryan Hall, Montana Electric Cooperatives Association (MECA)
15:13:15 David Herbst, American for Prosperity Montana (AFP Montana)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:15:04 Whitner Chase, Montana Conservation Voters (MCV)
15:16:25 Conor Ploeger, MEIC
15:18:22 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon (MA)

Informational Testimony:

15:20:11 Rebecca Harbage, Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:21:02 Chair Zolnikov
15:21:17 Rep. Skees
15:21:34 Vice Chair Hayman
15:24:39 Rep. Skees
15:25:54 Rep. Olsen
15:29:42 David Hoffman, NWE
15:30:16 Rep. Custer
15:30:47 David Hoffman, NWE

15:31:16 Rep. Olsen
15:31:51 Rep. Skees
15:33:24 Rep. Olsen
15:35:14 Rep. Skees
15:37:54 Rep. Brewster
15:38:36 Rep. Skees
15:39:34 Rep. Phalen
15:40:15 Rep. Duram
15:41:06 David Hoffman, NWE
15:41:25 Rep. Binkley
15:41:51 Rep. Skees
15:42:20 Rep. Olsen
15:43:55 Rep. Skees
15:45:14 Rep. Custer
15:45:38 Rebecca Harbage, DEQ
15:46:47 Rep. Duram
15:49:42 Rep. Skees

Closing by Sponsor:

15:50:19 Rep. Skees

15:51:16 Chair Zolnikov
15:51:49 Rep. Skees assumed the chair
15:52:09 Rep. Duram
15:52:14 Chair Skees
15:52:45 Vice Chair Hayman
15:52:59 Chair Skees

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 99

15:53:52 **Motion:** Rep. Zolnikov moved that **HB 99 DO PASS.**

15:54:15 Chair Skees
15:54:20 Vice Chair Hayman
15:56:51 Chair Skees
15:58:53 Rep. Brewster

15:59:14 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Rep. Zolnikov made a substitute motion that **HB 99 BE TABLED.** Substitute Motion carried 8-4 by roll call vote with Rep. Hayman, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Olsen and Rep. Sullivan voting no.
16:00:40 Chair Skees

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 182

16:00:50 **Motion:** Rep. Zolnikov moved that **HB 182 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

16:01:02 Chair Skees
16:01:14 Vice Chair Hayman

16:01:35 Chair Skees
16:01:36 Trevor Graff, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
16:01:53 Vice Chair Hayman
16:02:11 Without objection, Rep. Skees withdrew his motion.

16:02:55 Vice Chair Hayman
16:03:03 Chair Skees
16:03:30 Rep. Custer
16:03:37 Chair Skees
16:03:40 Trevor Graff, LSD
16:04:09 Chair Skees
16:06:19 Rep. Phalen
16:06:25 Chair Skees
16:06:35 Rep. Olsen
16:06:48 Chair Skees

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:07:35

Brittany Bury, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([feh26aad.pdf](#))