

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, TECHNOLOGY AND FEDERAL RELATIONS

**Call to Order:** Chair Derek Skees, on April 14, 2021 at 3:40 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. Joshua Kassmier (R)  
Rep. Kelly Kortum (D)  
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)  
Rep. Bob Phalen (R)

**Members Excused:**

Rep. Neil Duram (R)  
Rep. Katie Sullivan (D)

**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: SB 86, 4/12/2021; SB 379, 4/12/2021

15:46:39 Chair Skees  
15:47:34 Brief Recess  
15:51:12 Reconvened

### **HEARING ON SB 86**

#### **Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:51:18 Sen. Duane Ankney (R), SD 20, opened the hearing on SB 86, Generally revise obligations and conditions for property impacted by coal.

#### **Proponents' Testimony:**

15:59:31 Adam Haight, American Federation of Labor and Chief of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)  
15:59:46 Rep. Duram joined the meeting.  
16:02:18 Bob Gilbert, City of Colstrip  
16:02:57 Stacy Yates, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1638 (IBEW 1638)  
16:03:42 Jeff Acton, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1638 (IBEW 1638)  
16:04:46 Mich Wonnecott, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1686 (IBEW 1686)  
16:05:12 Dwight Rose, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 44 (IBEW 44)  
16:05:26 Dave Englund, Boilermakers Local 11  
16:05:51 Luke Hoffer, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 233 (IBEW 233)  
16:06:22 Mayor John Williams, Colstrip  
16:07:38 Jim Atchison, Southeastern Montana Development (SMD)

#### **Opponents' Testimony:**

16:09:43 Mark Baker, Puget Sound Energy (PSE)  
16:11:10 Jenny Chambers, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)  
16:14:22 Tom Ebzery, Portland General Electric, Avista Generation  
16:16:39 Charles Denowh, Rocky Mountain Power (RMP)  
16:18:08 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)  
16:19:35 Peggy Trenk, Treasure State Resources Association (TSRA)

**Informational Testimony:** None

#### **Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

16:22:20 Rep. Phalen  
16:22:46 Mayor John Williams, City of Colstrip  
16:23:29 Vice Chair Zolnikov  
16:23:50 Sen. Ankney  
16:24:32 Chair Skees  
16:24:49 Sen. Ankney

#### **Closing by Sponsor:**

16:25:19 Sen. Ankney

16:29:39 Chair Skees  
 16:29:53 Brief Recess  
 16:31:10 Reconvened

**HEARING ON SB 379**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:31:18 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 379, Generally revise coal-fired generation laws.

[EXHIBIT\(feh71a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh71a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh71a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh71a04\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

16:45:03 Sen. Ankney

16:47:18 David Hoffman, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)

[EXHIBIT\(feh71a05\)](#)

16:49:33 Alan Olson, self

16:50:52 Adam Haight, American Federation of Labor and Chief of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)

16:51:45 Bob Gilbert, City of Colstrip

16:53:12 Dwight Rose, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 44, 233, 1638 (IBEW 44, 233, 1638)

16:54:08 Dave Englund, Boilermakers Local 11

16:54:27 Peggy Trenk, Treasure State Resources Association (TSRA)

16:55:02 Darryl James, Westmoreland Mining (WM)

16:56:18 David Saulsbury, self

16:58:11 Rep. Duram

16:58:43 David Saulsbury, self

16:59:23 Brian Obert, Montana Business Assistance Connection (MBAC)

17:01:49 Sherman Anderson, Sun Mountain Lumber (SML)

17:04:53 Jim Atchison, Southeastern Montana Development (SMD)

17:06:55 Allison Corbyn, Big Sky Economic Development (BSED)

17:08:17 Steve Simonson, Beartooth Resource, Conservation, and Development (BRCD)

17:09:34 Mayor John Williams, City of Colstrip

17:11:56 Joe Willauer, Butte Local Development Resource, Conservation, and Development (BLDRCD)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

17:15:14 Chairman James Brown, Public Service Commission (PSC)

[EXHIBIT\(feh71a06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh71a07\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh71a08\)](#)

17:17:04 Chair Skees left the meeting.

17:17:07 Vice Chair Zolnikov assumed the chair.

17:18:20 Commissioner Tony O'Donnell, Public Service Commission (PSC)

17:21:14 Chair Skees joined the meeting.

17:21:53 Sen. Molnar

**EXHIBIT(feh71a09)**

17:25:00 Mark Klein, Broadreach Power (BP)

17:26:42 Scott Aspenlider, self

17:28:13 Steve Doherty, self

17:30:57 Monica Tranel, self

**EXHIBIT(feh71a10)**

17:33:13 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

**EXHIBIT(feh71a11)**

17:36:00 Commissioner Randy Pinnoci, Public Service Commission (PSC)

**EXHIBIT(feh71a12)**

**EXHIBIT(feh71a13)**

**EXHIBIT(feh71a14)**

17:39:43 Greg Lind, self

17:41:28 Whitner Chase, Montana Conservation Voters (MCV)

17:42:01 Dave Ashley, self

**EXHIBIT(feh71a15)**

17:44:57 Jason Brown, Montana Consumer Counsel (MCC)

17:47:37 Joan Kresich, Northern Plains Resource Counsel (NPRC)

17:50:25 Richard Liebert, self

17:51:57 Marta Meengs, self

17:53:08 Tom Schneider, self

17:55:44 Karin Kirk, self

17:58:41 Amy Hoitsma, self

17:59:58 Rachel Prevost, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

18:00:48 Jayson O'Neill, self

18:02:31 Mary Fitzpatrick, Northern Plains Resource Counsel (NPRC)

18:03:36 Mark Juedeman, self

18:05:44 Roger Koopman, self

18:08:23 Dave Chadwick, self

18:09:14 Mary Catherine Dunphy, self

18:11:43 Sharon Patton-Griffin, self

18:14:16 Rep. Duram

18:14:39 Chair Skees

18:15:03 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon (MA)

18:16:10 Jennifer Swearingen, self

18:18:42 Sue Kirchmyer, self

18:20:29 Taylor Eggebrecht, Remote Meeting Coordinator (RMC)

18:20:53 Jeff Smith, self

18:22:32 Will Swearingen, self

18:24:53 Patricia Steinmuller, self

**Informational Testimony:**

18:27:16 Jenny Chambers, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

18:27:53 John Mues, Cyan H2

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

18:29:46 Rep. Olsen  
18:32:36 Anne Hedges, MEIC  
18:34:55 Vice Chair Hayman  
18:36:20 Chairman James Brown, PSC  
18:37:12 Vice Chair Hayman  
18:37:58 Anne Hedges, MEIC  
18:39:41 Rep. Kortum  
18:40:08 John Mues, Cyan H2  
18:41:47 Chair Skees  
18:41:54 Rep. Kortum  
18:42:37 Rep. Duram  
18:43:12 Commissioner Tony O'Donnell, PSC  
18:45:00 Chair Skees  
18:45:09 Vice Chair Zolnikov  
18:47:46 Chairman James Brown, PSC  
18:49:26 Vice Chair Zolnikov  
18:49:37 Rep. Brewster  
18:49:46 Vice Chair Hayman  
18:51:32 John Mues, Cyan H2  
18:52:36 Rep. Duram  
18:53:03 John Mues, Cyan H2  
18:53:17 Vice Chair Hayman  
18:53:30 Rep. Custer  
18:56:40 Chair Skees left the meeting; Vice Chair Zolnikov assumed the chair.  
18:58:11 Chairman James Brown, PSC  
18:59:30 Rep. Olsen  
18:59:35 Chair Skees joined the meeting and resumed the chair.  
19:03:08 Chairman James Brown, PSC  
19:03:18 Rep. Brewster  
19:04:36 Chairman James Brown, PSC  
19:07:23 Rep. Custer  
19:09:08 Chairman James Brown, PSC  
19:09:21 Commissioner Tony O'Donnell, PSC  
19:09:32 Rep. Custer  
19:10:07 Commissioner Tony O'Donnell, PSC  
19:12:16 Chairman James Brown, PSC  
19:13:48 Rep. Duram  
19:14:38 Chairman James Brown, PSC  
19:14:54 Rep. Olsen  
19:15:44 Monica Tranel, self  
19:18:27 Rep. Olsen  
19:18:55 Chair Skees  
19:19:45 David Hoffman, NWE  
19:19:56 Chair Skees

**Closing by Sponsor:**

19:20:42 Sen. Fitzpatrick

19:25:49	Chair Skees
19:27:04	Rep. Kassmier
19:27:34	Chair Skees
19:27:38	Vice Chair Zolnikov
19:27:46	Chair Skees
19:28:11	Vice Chair Zolnikov
19:29:11	Chair Skees

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 19:29:37

---

Brittany Bury, Secretary

bb

Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([feh71aad.pdf](#))