

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

**Call to Order:** Chair Duane Ankney, on January 14, 2021 at 4:00 P.M., in Room 317  
Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present in the Committee Room:**

Sen. Duane Ankney, Chair (R)  
Sen. Jason D. Small, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Terry Gauthier (R)  
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)  
Sen. Brad Molnar (R)  
Sen. Keith Regier (R)  
Sen. Mark Sweeney (D)  
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)

**Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:**

Sen. Mary McNally, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Shane A. Morigeau (D)  
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)

**Members Excused:**

Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)  
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Lauren de Paepe, Committee Secretary  
Trevor Graff, Legislative Branch  
Jacquie Simmons, 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 59, 1/7/2021  
Executive Action: SB 14 - Do Pass

**HEARING ON SB 59**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:01:09 Sen. Mary McNally (D), SD 24, opened the hearing on SB59, Revise laws related to integrated least-cost resource planning. (late)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

16:02:51 Aimee Grmoljez, Montana-Dakota Utilities Company

16:03:20 Sen. Molnar entered the meeting.

16:04:01 Conor Ploeger, Clean Energy Program director, Montana Environmental Information Center

Additional testimony received:

**[EXHIBIT\(ens09a01\)](#)**

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

16:04:56 Robin Arnold, Public Service Commission (PSC)

**[EXHIBIT\(ens09a02\)](#)**

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

16:05:38 Sen. Kary

16:07:20 Ms. Arnold, PSC

16:07:38 Sen. McNally

**Closing by Sponsor:**

16:08:27 Sen. McNally

16:08:46 Chair Ankney

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 14**

16:09:16 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Small moved that **SB 14 DO PASS**. Motion carried 11-0 by voice vote. Sen. Cuffe and Sen. Lynch were excused.

**Committee Business:**

16:09:57 Chair Ankney

16:10:26 Sen. Pope

16:11:05 Chair Ankney

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:11 PM

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Lauren de Paepe, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([ens09aad.pdf](#))