

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

**Call to Order:** Chair Duane Ankney, on March 11, 2021 at 3:20 PM, in Room 317  
Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Senate Members Present in the Committee Room:**

Sen. Duane Ankney, Chair (R)  
Sen. Mary McNally, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Jason D. Small, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)  
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)  
Sen. Brad Molnar (R)  
Sen. Shane A. Morigeau (D)  
Sen. Keith Regier (R)  
Sen. Mark Sweeney (D)  
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)

**Senate Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:**

Sen. Terry Gauthier (R)  
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)

**Senate Members Excused:**

Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)

**Senate 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:**

Joint Informational Meeting with Public Service Commission.

**Public Service Commission Presentation**

**Presenters:**

15:21:09 Tony O'Donnell, Public Service Commission (PSC)

[EXHIBIT\(ens49a01\)](#)

15:29:49 Jordan White, vice president, Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC)

[EXHIBIT\(ens49a02\)](#)

15:36:39 Sen. Regier entered the meeting.

15:43:16 Mr. O'Donnell, PSC

15:43:38 Frank Afranji, president, Northwest Power Pool (NWPP)

15:46:08 Rep. Derek Skees and Rep. Katie Zolnikov entered the meeting.

16:00:13 Mr. O'Donnell

16:00:51 Mike Ross, senior vice president, Southwest Power Pool (SPP)

16:17:08 Mr. O'Donnell

16:17:13 Sen. McNally entered the meeting.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

16:18:37 Sen. Molnar

16:19:32 Mr. White, WECC

16:20:46 Sen. Molnar

16:21:27 Mr. Ross, SPP

16:25:04 Mr. O'Donnell

16:26:02 Trevor Graff, Legislative Services Division

16:26:13 Sen. Pope

16:28:32 Mr. Afranji, NWPP

**Presenters:**

16:31:14 Mr. O'Donnell

16:31:34 David Hoffman, NorthWestern Energy

16:38:10 Mr. O'Donnell

16:38:22 Diego Rivas, NW Energy Coalition

16:52:20 Mr. O'Donnell

16:53:20 Dan Catchpole, journalist, Clearing Up Newsletter, NewsData

17:00:29 Mr. O'Donnell

17:06:23 David White, president, Ramrock Building Systems

17:18:24 Mr. O'Donnell

17:19:26 Chair Ankney

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 5:19 PM

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Lauren de Paepe, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([ens49aad.pdf](#))