

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

**Call to Order:** Chair Duane Ankney, on April 26, 2021 at 11:00 A.M., in Room 303  
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. Ryan Lynch (D)  
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)  
Sen. Keith Regier (R)  
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)

**Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:**

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

**Members Excused:**

Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)  
Sen. Brad Molnar (R)  
Sen. Mark Sweeney (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: SJ 33, 4/23/2021  
Executive Action: SJ 33 - Do Pass

11:04:11 Sen. Lynch entered the meeting.

**HEARING ON SJ 33**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

11:04:44 Sen. Christopher Pope (D), SD 31, opened the hearing on SJ33, Interim study of Montana electric grid capacity.

Sen. Lynch left the meeting.

11:11:42 Sen. Regier entered the meeting.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

11:15:04 Dwight Rose, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 44; also speaking on behalf of NorthWestern Energy

11:15:30 Charles Robison, Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

11:16:16 Sen. Gauthier

11:16:44 Sen. Pope

11:17:49 Sen. Regier

11:18:25 Sen. Pope

Sen. McNally entered the meeting.

11:19:42 Sen. Tempel

11:20:44 Sen. Pope

**Closing by Sponsor:**

11:21:01 Sen. Pope

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 33**

11:22:48 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Ankney moved that **SJ 33 DO PASS**. Motion carried 9-0 by voice vote. Sen. Cuffe, Sen. Lynch, Sen. Molnar and Sen. Sweeney were excused.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 11:23 PM

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Lauren de Paepe, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([ens79aad.pdf](#))