

**MINUTES**  
**MONTANA SENATE**  
**68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**  
**COMMITTEE ON (S) ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**Call to Order:** Chair Walt Sales-R, on April 06, 2023 at 2:57 PM, in 303

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Sen. Walt Sales, Chair (R)  
Sen. Jason Small, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)  
Sen. Denise Hayman (D)  
Sen. Brad Molnar (R)  
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)  
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)  
Sen. Janet Ellis (D)  
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)  
Sen. Keith Regier (R)  
Sen. Daniel Zolnikov (R)

**Staff Present:** Hunter Camac, Attorney  
Jason Mohr, OBPP Staffer  
Jack Racicot, Secretary

**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 220 04/04/2023

Executive Action:

14:59:02 Sen. Regier has arrived  
14:59:17 Sen. Fitzpatrick has left  
15:21:01 Sen. Zolnikov has arrived  
15:25:54 Sen. Cuffe has arrived

**HEARING ON HB 220 - Create select committee on energy resource planning and acquisition**

**Opening Statement:**

14:59:30 Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R), HD 27, opened the hearing on HB 220, Create select committee on energy resource planning and acquisition.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:00:15 Chris Puyear, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)

[EXHIBIT\(230406ENSa1\)](#)

15:06:35 Dave Galt, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)

15:07:06 Aimee Grmoljez, Montana-Dakota Utilities (MDU)

**Opponent Testimony:**

15:08:37 Ian Lund, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

[EXHIBIT\(230406ENSa2\)](#)

15:14:41 Roxa Reller, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

15:17:37 Will Rosquist, Public Service Commission (PSC)

15:17:57 Dan Lloyd, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

**Questions from Committee:**

15:18:38 Sen. Denise Hayman

15:19:48 Will Rosquist, PSC  
15:21:11 Sen. Denise Hayman  
15:21:39 Ian Lund, MEIC  
15:22:42 Sen. Brad Molnar  
15:23:42 Rep. Joshua Kassmier-R  
15:24:14 Chair Walt Sales  
15:24:57 Rep. Joshua Kassmier-R  
15:25:16 Sen. Christopher Pope  
15:27:39 Dan Lloyd, DEQ  
15:29:00 Sen. Christopher Pope  
15:30:17 Chris Puyear, NWE  
15:34:25 Chair Walt Sales  
15:34:44 Chris Puyear, NWE  
15:34:49 Sen. Christopher Pope  
15:35:22 Rep. Joshua Kassmier-R  
15:35:37 Sen. Denise Hayman  
15:36:09 Aimee Grmoljez, MDU  
15:36:40 Chair Walt Sales  
15:36:41 Aimee Grmoljez, MDU  
15:37:23 Sen. Denise Hayman  
15:37:34 Rep. Joshua Kassmier-R  
15:37:47 Chair Walt Sales  
15:37:51 Sen. Denise Hayman  
15:37:56 Sen. Mike Cuffe

15:38:59 Rep. Joshua Kassmier-R

15:39:04 Sen. Mike Cuffe

**Closing Statement:**

15:39:23 Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R), HD 27, closed the hearing on HB 220.

15:39:54 **Committee Discussion:** Committee Business

15:40:00 Sen. Denise Hayman

15:40:14 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov

15:40:30 Sen. Mike Cuffe

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 15:40:41

---

Jack Racicot, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230406ENSaad\)](#)