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Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

62nd Montana Legislature

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May 1, 2012

To: ETIC members
From: Sonja Nowakowski, ETIC staff
Re: Universal System Benefits (USB) program

Attached is a copy of the 2011 USB reports submitted by Montana-Dakota Utilities, the Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association, and NorthWestern Energy. Public utilities and cooperative utilities are required to submit an annual summary report of universal system benefits programs.

Title 69-8-402, MCA and House Bill No. 27, approved by the 2009 Legislature, requires the ETIC to "review the universal system benefits programs, and, if necessary, submit recommendations regarding these programs." The ETIC conducted its formal review in November 2011 and did not recommend any changes to the program. If you would like the committee to revisit the topic in July, please let staff know.

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