



Energy and Technology Interim Committee

69th Montana Legislature

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Energy and Technology Interim Committee State Capitol, Room 317 9:00 a.m., Thursday, January 15, 2026

AGENDA TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE

- 9:00 a.m. **Call to Order - Roll Call**
- 9:05 a.m. **“Who Owns the Heat? Property Rights in Geothermal”- Gabriel Eckstein**
1. Introduction- Mr. Burns
 2. Gabriel Eckstein, Texas A&M University School of Law
 3. Public Comment
 4. Questions/Comments from the Committee
- 9:45 a.m. **NorthWestern Energy 2026 MT Integrated Resource Plan Draft**
1. 2026 MT Draft IRP- NWE Representative
 2. Public Comment
 3. Questions/Comments from the Committee
- 10:10 a.m. **MT Natural Gas Transmission Infrastructure**
1. NWE Transmission Overview- Mike Cashell, NWE
 2. WBI Energy Transmission Overview- Mark Anderson, WBI
 3. Public Comment
 4. Questions/Comments from the Committee
- 10:45 a.m. **Break**
- 11:00 a.m. **New Mexico Public Regulation Commission Restructuring**
1. Introduction – Mr. Burns
 2. Legislative History – Sen. Peter Wirth & Former Sen. Steve Neville (NM)
 3. Public Comment

4. Questions/Comments from the Committee

11:30 a.m. **“Factors Influencing Recent Trends in Retail Electricity Prices in the U.S.”- Dr. Ryan Wisler**

1. Introduction – Mr. Burns
2. Dr. Ryan Wisler, Lawrence Berkely National Laboratory
3. Public Comment
4. Questions/Comments from the Committee

12:15 p.m. **Lunch**

1:30 p.m. **Energy Task Force & Public Service Commission Update**

1. Energy Task Force Update- Sonja Nowakowski, Chair
2. PSC Administrative Rule Review- Mr. Walker
3. PSC Status of Dockets and Litigation—Commissioners & Staff
4. Public Comment
5. Questions/Comments from the Committee

2:15 p.m. **HB 368 (25)- Colstrip Water**

1. Colstrip Water Infrastructure & Conveyance System – Shannon Brown, Talen Montana
2. HB 368 Suggested Revisions- Jessie Luther, Taylor Luther Group
3. Public Comment
4. Questions/Comments from the Committee

3:00 p.m. **Transmission Authorities in the West**

1. New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority Overview—Lynn Mostoller, Executive Director
2. Colorado Electric Transmission Authority Overview – Maury Galbraith, Executive Director
3. Public Comment
4. Questions/Comments from the committee

4:15 p.m. **Bill Draft Workshop & General Work Session**

1. Bill Draft Workshop & General Work Session—Members & Staff
2. Public comment
3. Committee Action/If Any

5:00 p.m. **Adjourn**

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