

**MINUTES**

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Call to Order:** By Chairman Dick Knox, on March 7, 1997, at 3:30 p.m., in Room 437

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Dick Knox, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Bill Tash, Vice Chairman (Majority) (R)  
Rep. Hal Harper, Vice Chairman (Minority) (D)  
Rep. Haley Beaudry (R)  
Rep. Aubyn A. Curtiss (R)  
Rep. Jon Ellingson (D)  
Rep. Doug Mood (R)  
Rep. Karl Ohs (R)  
Rep. Scott J. Orr (R)  
Rep. Bob Raney  
Rep. Trudi Schmidt (D)  
Rep. Robert R. Story, Jr. (R)  
Rep. Jay Stovall (R)  
Rep. Emily Swanson (D)  
Rep. Lila V. Taylor (R)  
Rep. Cliff Trexler (R)  
Rep. Carley Tuss (D)  
Rep. Douglas T. Wagner (R)

**Members Excused:** none

**Members Absent:** none

**Staff Present:** Kathleen Williams, Legislative Services  
Stephanie Braun, Committee Secretary

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: SB 223, SB 175  
Executive Action: none

**HEARING ON SB 223**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

**Sen. Mack Cole, SD #4 submitted Exhibit #1**

**{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 1.7 Comments: Exhibit #1.}**

Proponents' Testimony:

Terry Taylor, Coalstrip, MT, works in a hardware store Coalstrip Task Force

{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 10.7; Comments: none.}

Don Judge, MT State AFLCIO submitted Exhibit #2

{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 16.3; Comments: Exhibit #2.}

Tom Danbert, MT Association of Oil, Gas & Coal Counties

{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 20.1; Comments: none.}

Lila Taylor, HD #5, Representative

{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 21.0; Comments: none.}

Jim Mockler, Executive Director of MT Coal Council

{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 23.3; Comments: none.}

John Williams, MT Power Company

{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 25.0; Comments: none.}

Opponents' Testimony: none

Informational Testimony: none

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 26.3; Comments: none.}

Newell Anderson submitted Exhibit #3 in response to a question.

Closing by Sponsor: Sen. Cole closed

HEARING ON SB 175

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Sen. Charles Swysgood, SD #17

{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 436.2; Comments: none.}

{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: end; Comments: flipped tape at end.}

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 0.1; Comments: none.}

Proponents' Testimony:

Faye Bergan, Reserved Water Right Compact Commission submitted Exhibit #4

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 4.0; Comments: Exhibit #4.}

Joe Mazurick, Attorney General

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 19.2; Comments: none.}

Tim Bozorth, State Hydrologist BLM submitted Exhibit #5  
{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 21.7; Comments: none.}

Mike Valesky, MT Association of Conservation Districts  
{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 28.4; Comments: none.}

Holly Franz, MT Power Company  
{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 30.2; Comments: none.}

Mike Murphy, MT Water Resources Association  
{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 33.5; Comments: none.}

Opponents' Testimony: none

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 34.1; Comments: none.}

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: end; Comments: flipped  
tape at the end.}

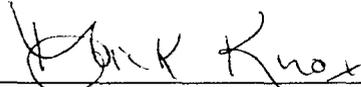
{Tape: 2; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 0.1; Comments: none.}

Closing by Sponsor: Sen. Swysgood closed

{Tape: 2; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 1.3; Comments: none.}

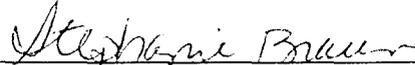
ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:20 p.m.



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REP. DICK KNOX, Chairman



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STEPHANIE BRAUN, Secretary

DK/SB