

April 14, 1977

The Natural Resources Committee convened on April 14, 1977, at 8:35 a.m., in room 437, with Chairman Shelden presiding and all members present except Reps. Huennekens, Cox and Nathe who were absent.

Chairman Shelden had called the committee together to discuss the energy subcommittees' proposals.

Rep. Kessler, chairman of the Extraction and Conversion Subcommittee, went through their proposals, a copy of which is exhibit 1.

There was committee discussion. Rep. Frates moved that number 5 on the Conversion section, page 3, be changed to read "The state should not provide financial support and should otherwise remain neutral in construction of a coal gasification plant in Montana at this time." This motion passed unanimously with those present. Rep. Frates moved to adopt the subcommittee's report as amended.

Rep. Burnett said he would like to have just the first line of number 4 on the first page. This has to do with weakening the strip mining law in the revegetation area. He felt companies should not have to reclaim with primarily native species. Rep. Davis also felt that using more introduced species was only good practical reclamation as the introduced would take quicker and produce more.

Chairman Shelden said that revegetation should be looked into in the interim so that more information would be available for the next session.

The question was called and the motion to adopt the Extraction and Conversion Subcommittee's proposals as amended passed with Reps. Burnett and Davis voting no and the same absent as above.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


ARTHUR H. SHELDEN, Chairman

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