

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
MONTANA STATE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 4, 1985

The meeting of the Natural Resources Committee was called to order by Chairman Dennis Iverson at 3:20 p.m. in Room 312-1 of the Capitol Building.

ROLL CALL: All members were present except Rep. Cobb, who was excused.

HOUSE BILL 543: House Bill 543 was introduced by Rep. Joan Miles, District 45. She said HB 543 calls for a one-word change to the facility siting act, amending the date for submission of long range plans by utilities from April to July. Such a change, she said, would allow utility companies time in which to include statistics gathered during cold weather peak usage in their long range plans.

John Lahr, representing the Montana Power Company, supported HB 543 as a means of allowing time for accurate information about cold-weather power use to be tabulated in time to be included in the company's long range plan. A copy of his testimony is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

Don Reed, representing the Environmental Information Center, supported HB 543, saying it would be a useful tool in providing accurate long-range plans.

Gene Phillips, representing Pacific Power and Light, went on record in support of HB 543.

Russ Brown, representing the Northern Plains Resource Council, said his organization supports HB 543 as a means of allowing utilities to present accurate and up-to-date information in long range plans.

Lawrence Siroky of the Dept. of Natural Resources and Conservation said that agency sees no problem with HB 543 and supports the legislation.

There were no questions from committee.

Rep. Miles closed by saying that HB 543 is not simply a harmless change to the Major Facility Siting Act,

but is a change that would result in better long-range utility planning.

Rep. Addy moved that HB 543 DO PASS. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.


Rep. DENNIS IVERSON, Chairman

DAILY ROLL CALL

HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES

COMMITTEE

49th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1985

Date February 4, 1985

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
IVERSON, Dennis (Chairman)	X		
KADAS, Mike (Vice-Chairman)	X		
ADDY, Kelly	X		
ASAY, Tom	X		
COBB, John			X
DRISCOLL, Jerry	X		
GARCIA, Rodney	X		
GRADY, Edward	X		
HARP, John	X		
JONES, Tom	X		
KRUEGER, Kurt	X		
MILES, Joan	X		
MOORE, Janet	X		
O'HARA, Jesse	X		
PETERSON, Mary Lou	X		
RANEY, Bob	X		
REAM, Bob	X		
SMITH, Clyde	X		

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 4,

35

19.....

SPEAKER:

MR.

We, your committee on **NATURAL RESOURCES**

having had under consideration **HOUSE**

Bill No. **543**

FIRST reading copy (**WHITE**)
color

**AN ACT CHANGING THE DATE FOR THE FILING OF LONG-RANGE
PLANS UNDER THE MAJOR FACILITY SITING ACT FROM APRIL 1
TO JULY 1 OF EACH YEAR; AMENDING SECTION 75-20-501,
MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE**

Respectfully report as follows: That **HOUSE**

Bill No. **543**

DO PASS

2/4 3:55

STATE PUB. CO.
Helena, Mont.

.....
Chairman.

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Exhibit 1
2/4/85

HOUSE BILL 543

In its ten-year plan, MPC must include the peak and average load experienced at each of its substation sites for each month of the preceeding calendar year. In addition, we must project peak loads for each year in the following ten-year period. Current law requires this information be filed by April 1 of each year.

Peak loads at each substation are not tabulated until after the month has passed. For example, the peak loads for December are tabulated in January. MPC's system, in the last several years, has experienced peak loads in February. Since these peaks are tabulated in March, there is inadequate time to complete the projection of the ten-year peaks that must be filed on April 1.

Setting the filing date back to July 1 of each year will remedy this difficulty. It will not affect the usefulness of the information. It will not affect the policy goals sought in the MFSA by requiring the filing of long range plans. The state will continue to receive timely information regarding projected needs for electricity and resources that are projected to meet the needs provide.

FOR: The Montana Power Company

BY: Michael E. Zimmerman

VISITOR'S REGISTER

HOUSE Natural Resources

COMMITTEE

BILL HB 543

DATE 2/4/85

SPONSOR Joan Miles

[illegible]

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR LONGER FORM.

WHEN TESTIFYING PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.