

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
50TH LEGISLATURE

March 27, 1987

The meeting of the Natural Resources Committee was called to order by Chairman Tom Jones at 12:40 p.m. on Friday, March 27, 1987 in room 312B in the state capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members were present, except Representative Smith who was excused and Representative Asay who was absent. Also present was Hugh Zackheim of the Environmental Quality Council, and Deb Thompson, secretary.

EXECUTIVE ACTION

SB184: Representative Cobb moved to concur the amendments to SB184 (Exhibit 1). He explained that this exempts the oil and gas from MEPA until the environmental statement is done, but no later than June 30, 1989. He said that the governor would have direct management responsibility which would allow all state agencies to get involved. Representative Cohen commented that these amendments allowed a two year "window of opportunity".

Representative Meyers pointed out that people were protesting because of fears that something might happen. He said that the fears were not from drilling one well but a series of wells.

Representative Kadas referred to (iii) of the amendments. He suggested it was important to spell out cumulative impacts not just individual proposals.

The question was called. The motion to concur on the amendments to SB184 PASSED unanimously. The motion to concur SB184 PASSED with Representative Raney voting NO.

HJR49: Representative Miles explained the resolution that required the Environmental Quality Council to conduct an interim study on forest management.

Jim Jenson, Bill Ballard, Stan Bradshaw, and Dana Field stood in support of HJR49.

Representative Miles moved DO PASS HJR49. The motion PASSED unanimously.

SB373: Representative Harper moved that the amendments that the committee put in the bill be stricken from the bill.

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The motion PASSED unanimously. Representative Harper moved to concur SB373. The motion PASSED unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.


REP. TOM JONES, Chairman

dt/3-27

DAILY ROLL CALL

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

50th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1987

Date 3-27-87

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
TOM JONES, CHAIRMAN	✓		
CLYDE SMITH, VICE CHAIRMAN			✓
KELLY ADDY	✓		
TOM ASAY		✓	
JOHN COBB	✓		
BEN COHEN	✓		
ED GRADY	✓		
JOHN HARP	✓		
HAL HARPER	✓		
MIKE KADAS	✓		
AL MEYERS	✓		
JOAN MILES	✓		
MARY LOU PETERSON	✓		
BOB RANEY	✓		
RANDE ROTH	✓		
ANGELA RUSSELL	✓		
BRUCE SIMON	✓		
BILL STRIZICH	✓		
STAFF: EQC HUGH ZACKHEIM	✓		

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

MARCH 2

19 81

NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on

SB 134

report

do pass
 do not pass

be concurred in
 be not concurred in

as amended
 statement of intent attached

TOM JONES

Chairman

1. Title, line 8.

Following: "ACT"

Insert: ", UNTIL A PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT IS ADOPTED"

2. Page 4, line 4.

Following: "(3)"

Strike: "The"

Insert: "Until the board of oil and gas conservation adopts a programmatic environmental statement, but no later than June 30, 1989, the"

3. Page 4.

Following: line 6

Insert: "(a) The board of oil and gas conservation shall adopt a programmatic statement by June 30, 1989, that must include but not be limited to:

(i) such environmental and cumulative impacts as may be found to be associated with the drilling for and production of oil and gas in the major producing basins and ecosystems in Montana;

(ii) such methods of accomplishing drilling and production of oil and gas as may be found to be necessary to avoid permanent impairment of the environment or to mitigate long-term impacts so that the environment and renewable resources of the ecosystem may either be returned to conditions similar to those existing before drilling or production occurs or conditions that reflect a natural progression of environmental change;

(iii) the process that will be employed by the board of oil and gas conservation to evaluate such environmental impacts of individual drilling proposals as may be found to exist;

(iv) an appropriate method for incorporating such environmental review as may be found to be necessary into the board's rules and drill permitting process and for accomplishing the review in an expedient manner;

THIRD

BLUE

reading copy ()

color

(v) the maximum time periods that will be required to complete the drill permitting process, including any environmental review; and

(vi) a record of information and analysis for the board of oil and gas conservation to rely upon in responding to public and private concerns about drilling and production.

(b) The governor shall direct and have management responsibility for the preparation of the programmatic statement, including responsibility, on behalf of the board of oil and gas conservation, for the disbursement and expenditure of funds necessary to complete the statement. The facilities and personnel of appropriate state agencies must be used to the extent the governor deems necessary to complete the statement. The governor shall forward the completed draft programmatic statement to the board of oil and gas conservation for hearing pursuant to the provisions of the Montana Administrative Procedure Act, Title, 2, chapter 4. Following completion of a final programmatic statement, the governor shall forward the statement to the board for adoption and use in the issuance of permits to drill for oil and gas."

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 2

19 3

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on NATURAL RESOURCES

report HJR 49

do pass
 do not pass

be concurred in
 be not concurred in

as amended
 statement of intent attached

TOM JONES

Chairman

FIRST

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color

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

MARCH 2

19³

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on NATURAL RESOURCES

report SB 313

- do pass
- do not pass

- be concurred in
- be not concurred in

- as amended
- statement of intent attached

TOM JONES

Chairman



THIRD

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color

Rep. Dave Brown will carry

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SB 184

1. Title, line 8.

Following: "ACT"

Insert: ", UNTIL A PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT IS ADOPTED"

2. Page 4, line 4.

Following: "(3)"

Strike: "The"

Insert: "Until the board of oil and gas conservation adopts a programmatic environmental statement, but no later than June 30, 1989, the"

3. Page 4.

Following: line 6

Insert: "(a) The board of oil and gas conservation shall adopt a programmatic statement by June 30, 1989, that must include but not be limited to:

(i) such environmental impacts as may be found to be associated with the drilling for and production of oil and gas in the major producing basins and ecosystems in Montana;

(ii) such methods of accomplishing drilling and production of oil and gas as may be found to be necessary to avoid permanent impairment of the environment or to mitigate long-term impacts so that the environment and renewable resources of the ecosystem may either be returned to conditions similar to those existing before drilling or production occurs or conditions that reflect a natural progression of environmental change;

(iii) the process that will be employed by the board of oil and gas conservation to evaluate such environmental impacts of individual drilling proposals as may be found to exist;

(iv) an appropriate method for incorporating such environmental review as may be found to be necessary into the board's rules and drill permitting process and for accomplishing the review in an expedient manner;

(v) the maximum time periods that will be required to complete the drill permitting process, including any environmental review; and

(vi) a record of information and analysis for the board of oil and gas conservation to rely upon in responding to public and private concerns about drilling and production.

(b) The governor shall direct and have management responsibility for the preparation of the programmatic statement, including responsibility, on behalf of the board of oil and gas conservation, for the disbursement and expenditure of funds necessary to complete the statement. The facilities and personnel of appropriate state agencies must be used to the extent the governor deems necessary to complete the statement. The governor shall forward the completed draft programmatic statement to the board of oil and gas conservation for hearing pursuant to the provisions of the Montana Administrative Procedure Act, Title 2, chapter 4. Following completion of a final programmatic statement, the governor shall forward the statement to the board for adoption and use in the issuance of permits to drill for oil and gas."

