

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON LONG-RANGE PLANNING

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN ERNEST BERGSAGEL**, on January 27, 1997, at 8:00 A.M., in Room 317 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Ernest Bergsagel, Chairman (R)
Sen. Thomas A. "Tom" Beck, Vice-Chairman (R)
Sen. John "J.D." Lynch (D)
Rep. Matt McCann (D)
Rep. Tom Zook (R)

Members Excused: none

Members Absent: none

Staff Present: Nan LeFebvre, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)
Debbie Rostocki, Committee Secretary

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: Department of Administration -
Information Services Division
Information Technology
Presentation
HB 7 - Reclamation and
Development Grants Program
Executive Action: none

Department of Administration
Information Services Division
Information Technology Presentation

Mr. Tony Herbert, Administrator of the Information Services Division (ISD), Department of Administration, gave the first of a series of presentations on the Information Technology (IT) Program, giving an overview of the ISD, defining IT and listing its benefits to the state, and giving a history of the changes in IT. **EXHIBIT 1**

{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 0.0-Tape 1:b:1.4}

Questions were asked by **SEN. BECK**, **Ms. LeFebvre** and **REP. MCCANN**.
{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 1.5-12.7}

HEARING ON HOUSE BILL 7
RECLAMATION AND DEVELOPMENT GRANTS PROGRAM (RDGP)

Mr. John Tubbs, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), gave an overview of the RDGP. **EXHIBIT 2**
{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 12.8-23.6}

Questions were asked regarding ranking criteria. **Mr. Tubbs** discussed the Board of Oil and Gas Conservation applications.
{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 23.7-29.0}

Mr. Greg Mills, DNRC Resource Development Bureau, commented on Board of Oil and Gas policy changes regarding the bidding process.

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 29.1-30.7}

Mr. Tubbs provided additional information regarding the Board of Oil and Gas Conservation. Questions were asked. Discussion took place regarding the Balco Disposal Facility project; bonding requirements were discussed. **Mr. Tubbs** reviewed the cash flow for past and current RDGP projects.

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 30.8-Tape 2:a:15.0}

A hearing agenda for RDGP projects was distributed **EXHIBIT 3** as well as copies of the Governor's budget for the RDGP. **EXHIBIT 4**

RDGP Project No. 3 - Nancy Lee Mine Complex Reclamation

Ms. Denise Mills, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Remediation Division Administrator, reviewed the project and recommendations.

{Tape: 2; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 15.1-18.9}

Mr. Tom Molstad, DEQ, reviewed the project. **EXHIBIT 5** Questions were asked regarding safety ranking. **Mr. Vic Andersen**, DEQ Mine Waste Cleanup Bureau Chief, spoke. **Mr. Molstad** reviewed the current site problems, reclamation goals and project cost. Discussion took place regarding reclamation responsibility.

{Tape: 2; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 19.0-42.0}

RDGP Project No. 4 - Nellie Grant Mine Reclamation Project

Mr. Jack Yates, DEQ, reviewed the project. **EXHIBIT 6**
{Tape: 2; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 1.8-10.7}

Questions were asked and **Mr. Yates** discussed tailings disposal options and described old-time mill operations. The hazards to livestock and wildlife at the site were discussed.

{Tape: 2; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 10.8-21.2}

RDGP Project No. 5
Charter Oak Mine and Mill Reclamation

Mr. Ron Hanson, a Powell County Planner, reviewed the project and outlined what they proposed to do. EXHIBIT 7
{Tape: 2; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 21.3-31.9}

Ms. Gail Jones, Powell County Commissioner, discussed the project. Questions were asked. Health risks associated with the project were addressed by Mr. Tubbs and Mr. Andersen. Mr. Mills explained why more funding had been recommended than had been requested for the project. Federal Office of Surface Mining funding policy was discussed.

{Tape: 2; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 32.0-Tape 3:a:2.5}

RDGP Project No. 6 - Mile High Conservation District

Mr. Tony Schoenen, Mile High Conservation District, discussed the project.

{Tape: 3; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 2.6-5.2}

Mr. Bob Winegerst, Mine Reclamation Specialist for the Beaverhead/Deer Lodge National Forest, reviewed the project. Questions were asked.

{Tape: 3; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 5.3-15.4}

RDGP Projects No. 1 and 2
Reliance Refinery Soils and Sludge Cleanup #1 and #2

Mr. Jeff Hagener, DNRC Trust Land Management Division Administrator, spoke briefly EXHIBIT 8
{Tape: 3; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 15.5-18.3}

Mr. Roger Noble, Kalispell DNRC Regional Office, reviewed the project and what they proposed to do. Mr. Noble stated that the Chairman of the Flathead County Commission wished to go on record as being in support of the project. Questions were asked.

{Tape: 3; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 18.4-31.7}

Ms. Denise Mills, DEQ Remediation Division Administrator, discussed the role of the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the funding process. Questions were answered by Mr. Noble, Ms. Mills and Mr. Hagener.

{Tape: 3; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 31.8-40.9}

HOUSE LONG-RANGE PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE
January 27, 1997
Page 4 of 4

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:00 noon



REP. ERNEST BERGSAGEL, Chairman



Debbie Rostocki

DEBBIE ROSTOCKI, Secretary

DB/DR

This meeting was recorded on three ninety-minute audiocassette tapes.