

House Bill 570

In The House

January 29, 1981

Introduced and referred
to Committee on Appropriations.

April 23, 1981

Died in Committee.

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 570
 2 INTRODUCED BY Holiday Conroy Jerome Sivertsen
 3

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO
 5 THE RECLAMATION DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE LANDS
 6 FROM THE RESOURCE INDEMNITY TRUST INTEREST ACCOUNT TO
 7 CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF COAL MINING AND
 8 RECLAMATION OPERATIONS ON QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF WATER IN
 9 THE SURROUNDING GROUND-WATER SYSTEMS."

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 11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

12 Section 1. Appropriation. There is appropriated from
 13 the resource indemnity trust interest account to the
 14 reclamation division of the department of state lands the
 15 sum of \$200,000 for the biennium ending June 30, 1983, for
 16 the purpose of conducting the study described in section 2.

17 Section 2. Study of coal impact on hydrologic system.

18 (1) The reclamation division of the department of state
 19 lands shall design a study to meet its needs in determining
 20 the probable consequences of coal mining and reclamation
 21 operations, both on and off the mine site, to the hydrologic
 22 system, in particular, the quantity and quality of water,
 23 including the dissolved and suspended solids, in the
 24 ground-water systems under seasonal flow conditions. The
 25 division shall collect data from the mine site and

1 surrounding areas sufficient to determine the cumulative
 2 impacts of all anticipated mining in the area upon the
 3 hydrologic systems of the area, in particular upon water
 4 availability. The study and data gathering are intended to
 5 supplement or complement the data and material submitted
 6 with the application for a permit.

7 (2) The reclamation division may employ independent
 8 consultants to do part or all of the study. However, the
 9 reclamation division shall supervise the study, including
 10 the scope of work, methodology, reporting procedures,
 11 schedules, and progress reports.

12 Section 3. Permitting to continue. This act is not
 13 intended to impose a moratorium on coal mining or to cause
 14 a delay in the processing of permit applications.

15 Section 4. If Bill No [LC 1008] is passed and
 16 approved, any reference in this act to the "reclamation
 17 division of the department of state lands" or "reclamation
 18 division" must be changed to the "department of natural
 19 resources and conservation".

-End-

-2- INTRODUCED BILL
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