



Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

64th Montana Legislature

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NADINE SPENCER, Secretary

August 25, 2016

TO: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee (ETIC)

FR: ETIC staff

RE: Renewable Energy Credit Draft Legislation Public Comment

During the July ETIC meeting, members requested draft legislation to eliminate renewable energy credit (REC) reporting and to further review the issue next interim.

The current law requires public utilities, electric cooperatives, competitive electricity suppliers, or owners of a renewable electrical generation facility to file a report with the committee each interim concerning the purchase or sale of RECs in Montana. While intended to generate useful information, the REC reports largely have not been fully utilized by renewable generators or by utilities in Montana. To-date they have provided little useful information to the committee.

The legislation was out for public comment from July 25 to August 25. A request for comment was posted on the ETIC Listserv and notice was sent in a news release.

The bill drafts requested by the committee include:

- LC REC1 - Repeal renewable energy credit reporting requirements.
- LC REC2 - Request an interim study of renewable energy credits in Montana.

The committee received no public comment on the REC legislation.

During the September meeting, the ETIC will need to determine if changes should be made to the draft legislation. The ETIC then can determine whether to bring the draft legislation before the 2017 Legislature.

Sonja Nowakowski