

Montana State Legislature

2011 Session

Exhibit 5

This exhibit is a booklet which can not be scanned, therefore only the front cover/table of content and 10 pages have been scanned to aid in your research.

The original exhibits are on file at the Montana Historical Society and may be viewed there.

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EXHIBIT

5

DATE

1/27/11

BY

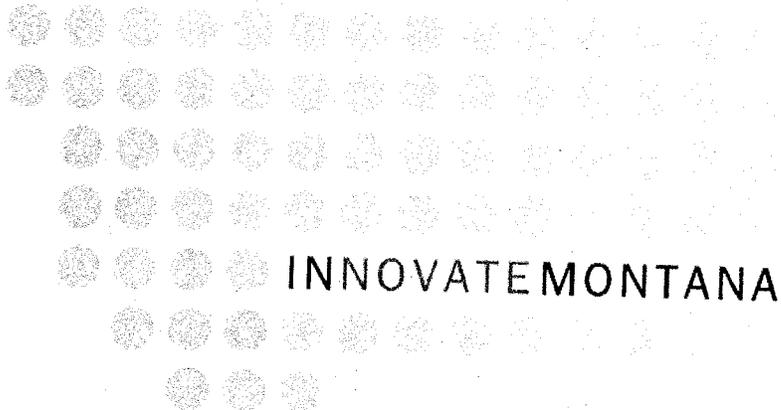
Gov Office

**Governor's Office of Economic
Development**

**Report on Activities
2005 - 2010**

to

Governor Brian Schweitzer



62nd Legislative Assembly

January 2011



Innovatemontana.com offers a unique web portal uniting Montana's innovative economies providing information and resources for working, living and playing in Montana. A private/public partnership, Innovate Montana's focus is between private industry focusing on businesses and entrepreneurs wanting to invest in Montana's growing economy and the Governor's Office of Economic Development.

As the site evolves, it will be updated frequently and include news and information on the latest trends in Montana's economic growth and quality employment opportunities in the state.

Check us out. To become engaged in this venture or for further information please contact liz.marchi@innovatemontana.com.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF MONTANA



December 1, 2010

Governor Brian Schweitzer
State Capitol
Helena, Montana 59620

Dear Governor Schweitzer:

Please accept this Report on Activities 2005-2010 as an indication of the work the Governor's Office of Economic Development has been doing for you and the State of Montana since you entered office.

It is clear that our collective efforts; working with the various state departments, local and regional economic development organizations, local and federal government and the private sector have produced results that benefit the economy of Montana.

Notwithstanding the national economic trends, Montana has been on the move economically when compared to other states. Our aggressive economic development efforts on your behalf, have moved Montana into the forefront of economic activity in the nation.

The Staff of the Governor's Office of Economic Development wants to thank you for your personal commitment and effort to help create higher paying jobs and bring positive economic growth to Montana in a way that preserves our unique quality of life. We appreciate your willingness to meet with and talk to targeted companies to help close deals. We further appreciate your vision for Montana's economy, the creativity and energy you bring to our collective efforts and your willingness to go the extra mile to make sure that Montana's economy improves.

After you have reviewed the report, please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Best personal regards ... and tap 'er light!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Evan Barrett".

EVAN BARRETT
Chief Business Development Officer
Governor's Office of Economic Development

STATE CAPITOL • P.O. BOX 200801 • HELENA, MONTANA 59620-0801
TELEPHONE: 406-444-3111 • FAX: 406-444-5529 • WEBSITE: WWW.MT.GOV

Montana's economic statistics are strong:

Montana is one of the fastest growing economies (8th) in America over the last 3 years

Montana's economy grew 65% over last 10 years (gross state product increase)

Montana scored 2nd best in economic performance according to the 2013 ALEC-Laffer State Economic Competitiveness Index

Montana has the 11th lowest unemployment rate in the nation (7.1%) which is 2.6% below the National average - 9.9% (federally)

Montana's taxation rankings from the *Tax Foundation* are good:

Montana ranks 6th best on list of tax-friendly states (state business tax climate ranking)

Montana is the 8th best in combined state and local tax burden

Montana is the 3rd best in sales taxes for business

Montana is the 19th best in property tax index

Montana energy development drives the Montana economy - including these significant increases in various forms of energy production:

#1 in wind power growth - from 1 MW to 396 MW (from 50th to 18th) among states with at least 250MW

Montana is the 2nd fastest growing state in the nation in oil production

Montana is 2nd in the nation in growth rate for coal production among top producers

First new coal mine in 29 years - Signal Peak (\$475 M investment - 235 good jobs)

Montana developed more new electrical generation capacity since 1/1/2005 than the previous 20 years combined

Montana had record job growth - at record high wages

60,000 private sector jobs created between 1/1/2005 and 10/28/2006

Current job creation - 5000 new jobs from January into August

Real state government job growth has been kept to less than 1/4 of 1% per year over the last 10 years

Prepared by

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

GOVERNOR BRIAN SCHWEITZER

P.O. BOX 200601, HELENA, MONTANA 59620-0601

www.business.mt.gov www.innovatemontana.com

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AUTHORIZATION, STRUCTURE AND MISSION

The Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED), previously called the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity, was created in 2001, **Section 2-15-218**. The office has been located in the Governor's Office under both the Martz and Schweitzer administration and is authorized to have seven exempt employees who are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The staff consists of the Chief Business Development Officer, **Section 2-15-219**, who is appointed by the Governor and heads the office, five Economic Development Specialists, and an Office Manager/Assistant.

According to **Section 2-15-218**, the Office of Economic Development is responsible for the following policy and program specialties:

- (a) business retention and recruitment;
- (b) workforce development;
- (c) technology development;
- (d) infrastructure improvement; and
- (e) permitting and regulatory processes

The statute further establishes that it is the economic development policy of this state to:

- (1) strengthen the foundations of the state's business environment and diversify and expand existing economic endeavors to achieve long-term economic stability;
- (2) cooperate with business enterprises, local governments, other public organizations, and the federal government and use all practical means and measures, including financial and technical assistance, to:
 - (a) establish an economic climate in which the state's natural resources and agricultural operations remain constant contributors to the state's economic welfare;
 - (b) articulate a coherent economic development vision for the future; and
 - (c) take a proactive role to ensure that Montana has the flexibility and resources to be an effective competitor in the changing global marketplace.

The statute, **Section 2-15-219**, empowers the Chief Business Development Officer to:

- (1) advise the governor on policy issues related to economic development;
- (2) lead the state's business recruitment, retention, and expansion efforts;
- (3) coordinate the development and distribution of a statewide coordinated strategic economic development plan;
- (4) coordinate the individual functions and programs within the office; and
- (5) serve as the state's primary liaison between federal, state, and local agencies, Montana tribal governments, private, nonprofit economic development organizations, and the private sector.

The functions and activities of the Governor's Office of Economic Development over the period from January 2005 to the end of 2010 follow.

