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Energy and Technology Interim Committee

69th Montana Legislature

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Energy and Technology Interim Committee
State Capitol, Room 154
9:00 a.m., Thursday, July 16, 2026

AGENDA TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE

9:00 a.m.	**Call to Order - Roll Call**
9:05 a.m.	**Resource Adequacy and the Energy Transition in the Pacific Northwest** 1. Arne Olson, Senior Partner- Energy and Environmental Economics, Inc. (E3) 2. Public Comment 3. Questions/Comments from the Committee
9:45 a.m.	**Montana Energy Business Alliance Presentation** 1. Heather McDowell & Kristen Blue – MEBA representatives 2. Public Comment 3. Questions/Comments from the Committee
10:05 a.m.	**Montana Data Centers – Economic Benefits and Resource Demands** 1. Bob Morris, Lance Energy Chair- Montana Technological University 2. Public Comment 3. Questions/Comments from the Committee
11:00 a.m.	**Provisional Draft Legislation 051- "New Large Loads to be Served by a Public Utility"** 1. Proposed Legislation: PD051 –Chairman Zolnikov 2. Public Comment 3. Questions/Comments from the Committee
12:00 p.m.	**Lunch**
1:00 p.m.	**The Untapped Grid Follow-up-Legislation Ideas** 1. Sen. Pope and Ian Magruder (Utilize Coalition) 2. Public Comment

3. Questions/Comments from the Committee
4. Committee Action, if any

1:15 p.m. **Energy Task Force & Public Service Commission Update**

1. Energy Task Force Update- Director Sonja Nowakowski
2. PSC Status of Dockets and Litigation— Commission Staff
3. Public Comment
4. Questions/Comments from the Committee

1:35 p.m. **Provisional Draft Legislation 010 & 011- Revising Laws Related to Geothermal Energy**

1. Proposed Legislation: PD010, PD011 Overview- Rep. Edwards
2. Public Comment
3. Questions/Comments from the Committee
4. Committee Action, if any

1:50 p.m. **Provisional Draft Legislation 008 & 009- SB 212 & SB297(2025) Clean-up**

1. Proposed Legislation: PD008, 009 Overview- Chairman Zolnikov
2. Public Comment
3. Questions/Comments from the Committee
4. Committee Action, if any

2:05 p.m. **Break**

2:20 p.m. **Provisional Draft Legislation 021- Generally Revising Consumer Protection Laws**

1. Proposed Legislation: PD021 Overview- Chairman Zolnikov
2. Public Comment
3. Questions/Comments from the Committee
4. Committee Action, if any

2:35 p.m. **Provisional Draft Legislation 004 & 005- Railroad Crossings & Equal Treatment of Railroad ROW Users**

1. Proposed Legislation: PD004, PD005 Overview- Staff
2. Public Comment
3. Questions/Comments from the Committee
4. Committee Action, if any

2:50 p.m. **Provisional Draft Legislation 006- Community Solar**

1. Proposed Legislation: PD006 Overview- Sen. Pope
2. Public Comment
3. Questions/Comments from the Committee
4. Committee Action, if any

3:05 p.m. **Public Comment on Matters Within the Jurisdiction of ETIC**

3:15 p.m. **Committee Work Session**

1. Open Discussion on matters within the jurisdiction of ETIC
2. Instructions to staff
3. Committee Action, if any

3:30 p.m. **Adjourn**

Public Participation

The public may attend the meeting and offer public comment in the Capitol or provide public comment either using remote meeting technology or in writing.

To offer public comment via remote meeting technology, please submit the online form for remote participation at least 2 hours before the scheduled start of the meeting: https://participate.legmt.gov/.

Written public comment may be submitted either through the online form for written comment or by mailing the comments to the Energy and Technology (ETIC) Interim Committee, PO Box 201706, Helena, MT 59620.

**Public comment provided in person or remotely at a legislative meeting is a public record that is videotaped, archived, and available on the internet. Public comment submitted in writing at a meeting is a public record that will be posted to the legislative website as part of the minutes log for the meeting.*

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