



Montana 2017 Legislative Update  
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# Transmission & Distribution

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- SB 42 – Revise MFSA to narrow facility review corridor from ½ mile to 500 ft.
- HB 297 – Right-of-first-refusal given to incumbent electric utility in eastern MT
- SJ 18 – Resolution in support of advanced transmission lines
- HR 2 – Resolution encouraging elimination of Montana Intertie Rate and changes to Eastern Intertie rate
- HB 365 – Creates additional protections for underground utilities
- SB 357 – Sunsets Clean & Green 19 year, 50% tax abatement that applies to C14 transmission

# Renewable Energy

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- HB 20 – Repeal REC reporting requirements to Dept. of Revenue/ETIC
- SJ 2 – Study RECs and reporting
- SB 32 – Repeal Community Renewable Energy Project (CREP) requirements
- SB 146 – Loosen CREP qualifying requirements
- SB 209 – Require 75% Montana residents employed on RE developments for preferential tax treatment (Class 14)

# Bonding

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- HB 216 – Require wind farms 25+ MW to provide a decommissioning plan and bond to DEQ with some exceptions
- HB 363 – Require wind and solar farms 35+ MW to submit reclamation plans and decommissioning bond to DEQ
- HB 625 – Require remediation bonds for Colstrip units 1 & 2

# Miscellaneous

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- SB 36 – Eliminates electrical licensing exemption for grid-tied generation
- SB 102 – Allow PSC to set QF contracts at no longer than 20 years in length
- SB 330 – Allow counties to establish PACE programs
- SB 210 – Change MT PSC to PUC with appointed commissioners

# Utility Regulation

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- HB 475 – Would empower PSC to order a rate case when deemed in the public interest
- HB 193 – Limits NWE's ability to pass through electricity purchase costs without PSC review
- HB 189 – Eliminate automatic rate adjustment for taxes and fees
- SB 168 – Shortens PSC review time for utility procurement plans to 9 months and requires 2 public meetings on proposed plans

# Colstrip Bills

- SB 37 – Would grant DEQ decommissioning and remediation authority over retiring Colstrip units
- SB 339 – Requires Colstrip unit owners to submit remediation plan to DEQ
- SB 38 – Impose fees for the retirement of Colstrip units 1 & 2
- SB 338 – Impose decommissioning fees on Colstrip units upon retirement
- HB 22 - \$130k to intervene in out-of-state proceeding affecting Colstrip
- HB 60 – Double WET Tax to support Colstrip community
- HB 585 – Allows \$10 million low-interest loan to Colstrip owners from coal trust fund
- SJ 5 – Study impacts of potential coal phase-out

# Net Metering (NM) Access Bills

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- SB 11 – Require biennial PSC review of interconnection standards
- SB 12 – Require PSC to review metering requirements for NM
- SB 1 – Require advanced meters for NM customers
- HB 504 – Omnibus pro-net metering bill
- HB 34 – Increase cap to 250 kW for gov't buildings
- HB 52 – Grandfather existing net metering customers
- SB 201 – Allow for aggregate NM
- SB 154 – Limit NM access to RE tax credits and SBECF
- SB 277 – Prohibit AERLP from loaning to virtual NM customers



# NM Rate Review Bills

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- HB 219 – Would require PSC/NWE to conduct a net metering rate review with next rate case
- SB 7 – Require PSC to analyze and address NM cost shifts
- SB 78 – Require PSC to set new NM rate at avoided cost

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Questions?