

## 1 HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2

2 INTRODUCED BY D. ZOLNIKOV

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4 A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA SUPPORTING  
5 ELIMINATION OF THE MONTANA INTERTIE RATE.

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7 WHEREAS, the Eastern Intertie is a segment of high-voltage transmission line running between  
8 Townsend and Garrison, Montana, owned and operated by the Bonneville Power Administration; and9 WHEREAS, the Montana Intertie rate is a transmission tariff governing the use of 200 megawatts of  
10 transmission capacity on the Eastern Intertie; and11 WHEREAS, the Townsend to Garrison rate is a transmission tariff governing the use of 1,734 megawatts  
12 of transmission capacity on the Eastern Intertie; and13 WHEREAS, the Bonneville Power Administration has overcollected, by nearly \$1 million per year in  
14 recent years, the Eastern Intertie's revenue requirement from Colstrip partners, including NorthWestern Energy,  
15 a regulated utility with 360,000 customers in Montana; and16 WHEREAS, equitable transmission rates are necessary to new and existing generation facilities seeking  
17 to export electrical energy from Montana, including continued operations at the Colstrip generating facility; and18 WHEREAS, the Bonneville Power Administration's transmission network consists of 15,000 miles of  
19 electric transmission lines throughout Montana, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon; and20 WHEREAS, the Eastern Intertie is less than 100 miles in distance, but the Montana Intertie adds roughly  
21 40% to the cost of traversing the Bonneville Power Administration's network transmission system; and22 WHEREAS, since the original Montana Intertie Agreement was signed in 1981, 184 megawatts of  
23 transmission capacity on the Eastern Intertie has never been subscribed for long-term transmission service and  
24 remains unsubscribed today; and25 WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Montana and for economic development to maximize the utilization  
26 of the existing transmission system and available transmission capacity; and27 WHEREAS, development of energy generation facilities in Montana, of any kind, to serve Pacific  
28 Northwest loads will contribute to the economic development of Montana; and29 WHEREAS, full subscription of the Eastern Intertie would facilitate the reduction of network rates for all  
30 Bonneville Power Administration transmission customers by 0.3%; and

