

SENATE BILL NO. 168

INTRODUCED BY S. MALEK

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING ELECTRICITY SUPPLY RESOURCE PROCUREMENT PLAN REVIEW; ESTABLISHING PUBLIC HEARING REQUIREMENTS; ESTABLISHING A DEADLINE FOR PLAN REVIEW BY THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION; AMENDING SECTION 69-8-420, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND AN APPLICABILITY DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 69-8-420, MCA, is amended to read:

"69-8-420. Electricity supply resource procurement plans -- comment on plans. (1) The public utility shall develop electricity supply resource procurement plans. The plans must be submitted to the commission at intervals determined in rules adopted by the commission.

(2) An electricity supply resource procurement plan must demonstrate the public utility's achievement of the objectives provided in 69-8-419 and compliance with commission rules.

(3) The commission shall:

- (a) review the electricity supply resource procurement plan;
- (b) provide an opportunity to the public to comment on the plan in accordance with subsection (4); and
- (c) issue written comments within 12 months after the plan is submitted to the commission that identify:
 - (i) any concerns of the commission regarding the public utility's compliance with commission rules; and
 - (ii) ways to remedy any concerns.

(4) The commission shall:

(a) hold one public hearing in an area of the state encompassed by the plan. Notice of the hearing must be published for 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation at least 30 days prior to the hearing.

(b) if the commission's written comments must be submitted in accordance with subsection (3)(c) before September 15 in the year preceding a regular legislative session, hold a joint public hearing with the energy and telecommunications interim committee provided for in 5-5-230 to accept public comment."

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.



