Montana House Conservation Hot List Week 2: January 14, 2019

Please Support:

HB 78, Require public hearings for utility planning, Rep. Perry (D-Hungry Horse), House Energy, Technology and Federal Relations, Hearing 01/14/2019 at 3p.m., Support. HB 78 had unanimous support in the energy interim committee. It requires for-profit electric utilities (i.e. NorthWestern Energy and Montana Dakota Utilities) to hold at least two public meetings as part of their long-term resource planning processes. HB 78 is a step forward for transparency and consumer protection. Having at least two public planning meetings allows more experts to provide perspective and feedback to the utility that it might not otherwise have access to or consider. All other major utilities in the northwest hold planning meetings that are open for anyone to attend. Only NorthWestern currently has closed-door, invite-only meetings. HB 78 is a step in the right direction for more participation and transparency in the planning process Contact Brian Fadie, MEIC, 210-7591, bfadie@meic.org

The Weekly Hotlist is published as an educational service to lawmakers and citizens by the Conservation Working Group, comprised of the organizations listed below. Contact Alex Rich, Montana Conservation Voters at 254-1593 ext. 2.