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Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

65th Montana Legislature

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July 5, 2018

TO: Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee Members

FR: Trevor Graff, ETIC Staff

Attached are copies of the 2017 USB program reports submitted by Montana-Dakota Utilities, the Montana Electric Cooperative's' Association, and by NorthWestern Energy. The Department of Revenue also received reports from large customers who self-directed funds. The large customer reports will be summarized by staff during the July 19-20 meeting. They are posted on the committee's website. Because the large customer reports are about 300-pages, I did not include hard copies. If you would like copies, let me know.

Title 69-8-402, MCA requires the ETIC to "review the universal system benefits programs, and, if necessary, submit recommendations regarding these programs." Public utilities and cooperative utilities are required to submit an annual summary report of universal system benefits programs to the ETIC for review. Statute also requires the ETIC to determine whether large customer reports were appropriately filed with the Department of Revenue by comparing those reports with claims made to utilities and cooperatives. In accordance with 5-5-215, MCA, the committee also must decide if it would like to continue to receive USB reports in future interims.

During the July meeting, ETIC members will review the USB reports, large customer reports, and receive a brief overview of the program.

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