



MEDA Wind Project Working Group

December 10, 2019

10:00am

On the call: Steve Simonson, Tori Matejovsky, Kyla Maki, Jim Atchison, and Gloria O'Rourke.

Purpose: To have those working on Montana Wind Projects to share information and resources.

Updates:

- Steve shared about the Pacific Source Project – 114 wind towers will be going up. Millions of dollars of impact fees were negotiated.
- Public Service Commission just approved a windfarm in Stillwater County, near Rapelje, MT. Rates are still being negotiated. Steve is seeking more information on battery usage for this project. Kyla will do some research.
- Steve mentioned a solar demonstration project near Reed Point; the panels are not doing well under snow loads. They were manufactured by a California company.
- Jim Atchison – Clearwater Energy project continues to move forward. Developers are willing to use economic and community development for impact. Construction will begin in 2020 with electricity being generated in 2021. Three counties in the area will have towers. The cost of hooking in to the grid is not known at this time.
- Dawson County project may be experiencing some delays.

Misc.

- Jim asked if EDOs have been asked to work with energy companies to enter in to MOUs to share funds with the community. It was noted Snowy Mountain Development has experience with this and would be glad to share.

Next Steps:

- Gloria reminded everyone to share resources with her and she will post.
- Have Jason Stuart join the call for an update.
- Next meeting future topics: abatement fee documents, lessons learned, commissioner guest speakers.