

HOUSE BILL NO. 729

INTRODUCED BY S. GALLOWAY, S. KERNS, S. GIST, L. SHELDON-GALLOWAY, L. BREWSTER, K. SEEKINS-CROWE, F. NAVE, M. HOPKINS, J. GILLETTE, G. OBLANDER, T. BROCKMAN, M. YAKAWICH, C. FRIEDEL, G. KMETZ, J. ETCHART, B. PHALEN, L. DEMING, E. BUTCHER

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR ADVANCED CONDUCTOR COST-EFFECTIVENESS CRITERIA; ALLOWING ADVANCED CONDUCTOR RATE BASING; PROVIDING A DEFINITION; AMENDING SECTION 69-3-702, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

**NEW SECTION. Section 1. Criteria for allowable advanced conductor programs.** (1) The commission may approve cost-effectiveness criteria for advanced conductor projects that may be placed into a utility's rate base under this part.

(2) Criteria must be based on established direct current resistance at standard pressure and a temperature of 20 degrees Celsius.

(3) As used in this section, "advanced conductor" means an overhead electricity conductor installed in a transmission or distribution project that has a direct current electrical resistance at least 10% lower than ~~similar~~ existing conductors OF A SIMILAR DIAMETER on the system.

(4) IN ESTABLISHING COST-EFFECTIVENESS CRITERIA, THE COMMISSION MAY CONSIDER DECREASED ELECTRICAL LOSSES AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT CONSUMER, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND SYSTEM BENEFITS PROVIDED BY ADVANCED CONDUCTORS.

**SECTION 2. SECTION 69-3-702, MCA, IS AMENDED TO READ:**

**"69-3-702. Eligible conservation.** Conservation purchases or investments are eligible under this part if they are provided for in 69-3-1206 and in accordance with [section 1] or 69-3-1209."

**NEW SECTION. Section 3. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an

1 integral part of Title 69, chapter 3, part 7, and the provisions of Title 69, chapter 3, part 7, apply to [section 1].

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3 NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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