

Revised Draft Montana PSC Disclosure Rule

(38.x.200) Disclosure of Source of Energy and Emissions. (1) Licensed electricity suppliers must use the Disclosure Guidelines for Energy Service Providers developed by the Oregon Office of Energy to disclose the generation source and associated emissions for electricity sold to retail consumers with loads less than 300 KW. Licensed electricity suppliers must also compare their resource mix and emissions to the System Average Resource Mix and emissions. Licensed electricity suppliers must include this information in Service Contracts, provide it to any consumer who requests it and include it in customer bills on at least a quarterly basis. Licensed electricity suppliers must update the information at least annually using one of the following procedures:

(a) Known Resource Mix. The electricity supplier's existing resources and contractual agreements for each product and service for which the resource mix is known must be disclosed as the resource mix for that product and service. Existing resources and contractual agreements must be based on forecasts for the year which assume median hydropower conditions. The Commission may review the accuracy of the electricity supplier's claims at any time.

(b) System Average Resource Mix. Contractual arrangements based on undifferentiated system purchases must be ascribed a resource mix based on a representative average of the United States portion of the Northwest Power Pool less exports at the export resource mix plus imports at the import resource mix. The Oregon Office of Energy publishes such information in April of each year from sources to include the Northwest Power Pool's median hydropower forecast for the year.

(c) Combination Resource Mix. If an electricity supplier has a combination of resources, the supplier must follow the requirements of parts (a) and (b) of this rule for the known and system average portions, respectively, of its supply mix.

(2) The following fuel types must be disclosed for each product or service: hydroelectric, coal, natural gas/oil, nuclear, and other. The other category may include biomass, solar, wind, cogeneration, geothermal and other fuels not identified. An electricity supplier may specifically disclose biomass, solar, wind, cogeneration, geothermal and other fuels not identified and may expand upon this list to provide greater detail to retail customers. An electricity supplier must disclose generation fuel types using pie charts as shown in the Disclosure Guidelines for Energy Service Providers.

(3) The following emissions must be disclosed for each product or service: sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, carbon dioxide and high level radioactive waste. An electricity supplier must also disclose that Some hydropower may have a detrimental effect on salmon and other fish populations. An electricity supplier may include discussion of mitigation and offset efforts where appropriate. The Oregon Office of Energy publishes emission information for the System Average Resource Mix as described in paragraph (1)(b) of this rule. Where the resource mix for a service category is known an electricity supplier must disclose actual data. An electricity supplier must disclose emission information to retail customers using the bar chart format referencing emissions per kilowatt-hour as shown in the Disclosure Guidelines for Energy Service Providers.