

The Council

Energy Development and Transmission Committee

The Energy Development and Transmission Committee held its second meeting of the interim on November 6 at Coal Creek Station. The committee continued its study of a comprehensive state energy policy and received testimony from industry leaders on key issues affecting the state's energy future. Representatives from Rainbow Energy Center, the North Dakota Petroleum Council, the North Dakota Pipeline Authority, and WBI Energy Transmission, Inc. highlighted the critical role of natural gas and ongoing development efforts across the state.

The committee also heard testimony from the North Dakota Transmission Authority, Energy and Environmental Research Center, Southwest Power Pool, and Midcontinent Independent System Operator regarding the state's baseload power and the reliability and strength of the state's power grids.

Additional testimony focused on local challenges in developing energy infrastructure, along with an update on large load programs and local utility rates presented by McLean Electric Cooperative and the McLean County State's Attorney.

Upcoming Meetings

November

- 12** Higher Education Funding Review
- 13** Agriculture and Water Management
- 18** Health Care
- 19** Human Services

December

- 2** Information Technology Judiciary
- 3** Legislative Task Force on Government Efficiency Administrative Rules
- 9** Water Topics Overview Legislative Audit and Fiscal Review
- 10** Budget Section
- 11** Child Custody Review Task Force Government Finance
- 16** Protection and Victim Services

Veterans Day Nov. 11

Thank you for your service and sacrifice.

Please note: The Legislative Council office will be closed Tuesday, November 11, in observance of Veterans Day.

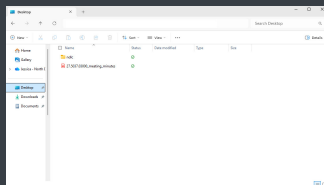


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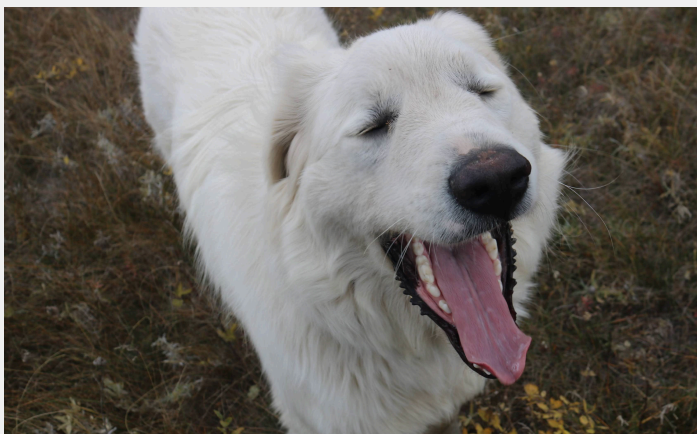
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1. Press **WINDOWS+E** on the keyboard.
2. A file explorer window appears.



Special Education Funding Committee

On November 5, the Special Education Funding Committee held its second meeting of the interim. Representatives of the Education Commission of the States provided information regarding special education funding models in other states, including weighted formulas, census-based formulas, reimbursement, resource allocations, and high-cost services aid. According to representatives of the Wyoming Department of Education, Wyoming reimburses school districts 100 percent of special education costs, based on the Wyoming Supreme Court finding any formula resulting in disparities for funding special education students is constitutionally infirm. Testimony from representatives of the Finance Department of the Illinois State Board of Education indicated that since 2018, Illinois has funded special education through its Evidence-Based Funding model, which consists of the base funding minimum or "hold harmless" payment, in addition to tier funding, which is based on each school district's adequacy level. A representative of the Department of Public Instruction provided data related to students with disabilities.



PET SPOTLIGHT

Meet Alexander the Great Pyrenees. Like my mum, I enjoy wandering the countryside and finding old things. I am paw-sitively the best dog in the west.

Can you guess my human?

A: Jessica Rockeman, Policy Analyst/Communications

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