

# MONTANA STATE ELECTRICAL BOARD

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Prepared by Jason Steffins, Program Manager

2009 Winter Edition – NO. 2

## CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

**Jack Fisher, Electrician, President**

*Butte MT Term 7/1/2008 to 7/1/2013*

**Rick Hutchinson, Electrician, Vice President**

*Great Falls MT Term 7/1/04 to 7/1/2009*

**Marlene Egan, Public Member**

*Helena MT Term 7/1/07 to 7/1/2012*

**Fred Talarico, Electrical Contractor**

*Missoula MT Term 7/1/05 to 7/1/2010*

**Dawn Achten, Public Member**

*Billings MT Term 7/1/06 to 7/1/2011*

## DEPARTMENT STAFF

<i>Stephen White – Executive Officer</i>	<b>406-841-2368</b>
<i>Jason Steffins – Program Manager</i>	<b>406-841-2329</b>
<i>Barb Green – Application Specialist</i>	<b>406-841-2339</b>
<i>Linda Grady – Compliance Specialist</i>	<b>406-841-2386</b>
<i>Dick Marlow – Compliance Specialist</i>	<b>406-439-5817</b>
<i>Peggy Schram – Compliance Specialist</i>	<b>406-439-5824</b>
<i>Anne O'Leary – Board Counsel</i>	

## 2009 BOARD MEETING DATES

**JANUARY 8 - HELENA**

**APRIL 9 - HELENA**

**JULY 9 - LEWISTOWN**

**OCTOBER 8 – HELENA**

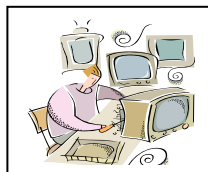
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## ePass – What it means to you as a licensee By Jason Steffins

ePass has been developed to allow the use of several functions, i.e., renewing your occupational license, fishing license, contractor registration, and file transfer for board books for board members under a single password and username. It is the Departments desire to utilize the ePass system in order to send large files and incorporate eGovernment services into one username and password. To learn more about the system, please visit the web site at <https://app.mt.gov/epass/epass>

## Continuing Education...Start Now!



Each licensee will be responsible to acquire 16 hours of continuing education for the licensing period of July 1, 2008 through July 1, 2010 of which at least half must be NEC update. Please visit [www.continuinged.mt.gov](http://www.continuinged.mt.gov) to view the approved providers for the State of Montana. Only courses that are approved by the Montana State Electrical Board will be displayed. Courses taken in a reciprocal state must have that state's course approval number on the completion certificates and will not be listed in the hours of credit earned on the website.

## New Executive Officer – Design and Construction Unit By Jason Steffins

Meet Stephen White, Executive Officer for the Department of Labor and Industry, Business Standards Division, Design and Construction Unit. Previously, Stephen had been the education director for the Board of Realty Regulation. Stephen and his wife, Dorothy from Garrison, MT met in Houston, TX and relocated permanently in 2007. Stephen has a degree in civil engineering from Texas A&M University working for 5 years as an engineer. He was also a high school teacher in Texas for 11 years. With his Texas accent, you will know you are speaking with him right away!



## INDUSTRY NEWS – Montana Going Green with wind farms and solar?

By Jason Steffins from the Missoulian

As a whole, the power industry hasn't exactly rushed into the forefront of action on global warming, but now Montana's electric cooperatives are taking the initiative.

“Our position on climate change is to take action, and we do have a proposal for how to best deal with it,” said Gary Weins, assistant general manager of the Montana Electric Cooperatives Association, which is headquartered in Great Falls.

MECA is a not-for-profit, statewide trade association that represents 26 consumer-owned electric distribution cooperatives and three generation and transmission cooperatives. Those co-ops serve more than 250,000 people across Montana and the Dakotas, Wyoming and Idaho.

“We know that this is a serious issue that our customers, who are our owners, want us to address,” Weins said during a recent interview in Missoula. “Three-quarters of all Americans believe that global warming is something we need to do something about, so we want to be out front on it.”

MECA's plan derives from one developed by the Electric Power Research Institute, an independent nonprofit organization for public interest energy and environmental research. The plan focuses on what EPRI calls the “full portfolio,” a broad-spectrum approach to cutting carbon dioxide emissions while not decimating the economy.

The portfolio, designed to cut carbon dioxide emissions to 1990 levels by 2030, is built on seven technologies, some already in place, others in need of more development:

- End-use energy efficiency.
- Renewable energy.
- Advanced, light-water nuclear reactors.
- Advanced and clean coal power plants.
- Carbon dioxide capture technologies.
- Plug-in hybrid electric vehicles.

Distributed energy resources, which include new ways to capture and and distribute power generated by wind and solar sources.

“What we're dealing with is a sort of perfect storm,

where prices are increasing and sources of power are declining, and now we've thrown global warming on top,” Weins said. “It's a situation that demands action, and it won't be easy, but we are excited about playing a role.”

Implementing some of the strategies will result in some reduction in carbon dioxide emissions, but both EPRI and Weins said the reduction to 1990 levels requires the entire range of alternatives.

“If you don't use it all, the line that graphs emissions continues to move up,” Weins said. “And we have the ability to do it, the ingenuity to do it, and people want it done.”

Weins said the plan requires significant American investment in new technologies over the next three decades, but will produce a significant savings and a renewable energy future in the bargain.

“It's expensive, but we can't afford not to do it,” Weins said.

Some of the technologies needed to make the shift to carbon dioxide reduction aren't really commercially viable yet. For instance, it's true that carbon dioxide can be captured from power plants with current technologies, but the costs to do so are exorbitant, both to industry and consumers.

“Carbon capture isn't there right now, but it can be by 2020, and it's critical if we're going to cut emission levels,” Weins said. “You've got to have all the technologies on the table.”

Montana cooperatives are already looking at other technologies as they prepare for a coming cutback in power supply from the Bonneville Power Administration.

“That will result in a 5 to 10 percent reduction in supply, and there are co-ops looking at replacing some of that with wind farms,” Weins said. “They're also looking at being more efficient; which can be both quick and cheap.”

Weins said MECA believes that power suppliers have an obligation to take action on global warming.

“We're at the center of the process, bring power from suppliers to consumers,” he said. “We need to play a role in making sure that equation is designed to solve our problems rather than making them worse.”

## COMPLIANCE REPORT

By Dick Marlow and Peggy Schram

Another busy year of traveling for the Compliance Officers for the Montana State Electrical Board and Board of Plumbers. They traveled approximately 100,000 miles between the two officers for the State of Montana, inspecting many sites and licensees:

- **4798 Residential Inspections**
- **1088 Commercial Inspections**
- **1372 License Checks**
- **75 Investigations**

The Compliance Officers are working hard as you can see in keeping Montana licensees or un-licensed persons in compliance. Also, licensed electricians have the right to ask a person working at a job site as an electrician to provide proof of licensure. If you have witnessed unlicensed practice you may file a complaint with the Department. Complaint forms and information are available on our website at [www.electrician.mt.gov](http://www.electrician.mt.gov) and are listed under "General Board Information". For more information on filing a complaint, please contact Compliance Specialist Linda Grady at 406-841-2386.

## BUREAU OF BUILDING & MEASUREMENT STANDARDS

By Dave Cook

The Electrical Safety Section has compiled a list of the top ten compliance items found during rough-in and final electrical inspections by the Bureau's inspection personnel. Not in any particular order they are:

1. Failing to call for inspections – rough-in and finals.
2. NEC Article 422.31 Disconnecting of permanently connected appliances.
3. NEC Article 110.12(a) unused openings.
4. NEC Article 110.26 and 110.26 (F) (1) Working Space about electrical equipment and dedicated equipment space.
5. NEC Article 680.73 Hydro-massage Bathtub Accessibility.
6. Do not provide a window of opportunity for inspections – Work cannot be

covered up by other construction until the inspection is complete.

7. NEC Article 300.21 Improper penetration of Building Fire walls
8. NEC Article 250.94 means for bonding other building systems
9. NEC article 334.12 NM cable not permitted to be exposed above drop or suspended ceilings in building other than dwelling units.
10. Do not provide access to the project for the inspections.

The Electrical Safety Section continues to find these items to be the most written up compliance issues requiring installers to return to the project and fix the non-compliant issues, which is expensive and time consuming for both the installers and the inspection personnel.

Any questions, comments, or suggestions you may have for the Building Codes Bureau can be made by contacting Dave at 406-841-2053 or via email at [dcook@mt.gov](mailto:dcook@mt.gov)

## 2010 Renewal Changes.... By Jason Steffins

The Montana State Electrical Boards licensees will see some changes in the look of the 2010 Electrical Renewals. The majority of the 37 occupational licensing boards renew directly on-line. In 2010 the Electrical Board will be advancing in the same direction. When you receive your renewal some time in May of 2010, it will now be a tri-fold pamphlet that gives your pin number with directions on how to simply renew on-line. However, you will still have the option to call the board office and request a paper renewal form if you don't have access to an on-line service. Some of the benefits to renewing on-line are; immediately renewing your license, no worries of your payment being lost in the mail or making it on time, the ability to renew your license at your convenience, and the ability to have a payment option using your credit card or an e-check as a payment method. Page 4 is an example of how the Tri-Fold Renewal form will look:

Your current license  
expires on  
**December 31, 2008**



It's time to renew your Montana license. Your license renewal is due on **December 31, 2008**. Montana government services are as close as your computer at

[www.cosmetology.mt.gov](http://www.cosmetology.mt.gov)

To make it even easier, you may renew your license over the Internet and charge it to your Visa or MasterCard, or use "E-Check" (pay from your checking account), and print your current license directly from your own computer.

**YOU CAN START RENEWING ONLINE ON NOVEMBER 1, 2008**

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY  
dli.mt.gov

Governor Brian Schweitzer

Montana's Official State Website

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**PERSONAL LICENSE RENEWAL NOTICE**  
**DO NOT DISCARD**

**PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL**

**RENEWAL NOTICE**  
**DO NOT DISCARD**

Department of Labor & Industry  
Board of Barbers and Cosmetologists  
301 South Park, 4th Floor, PO Box 200512  
Helena MT 59620-0512  
Tel: (406) 841-2378  
Fax: (406) 841-2309  
dlibsdcos@mt.gov

NETWORK ONLINE CERTIFICATION

<<First Name>> <<Last Name>>  
<<Address 1>>  
<<City>> <<State>> <<Zip>>  
<<Foreign Address>>  
<<Country>>

6507

**YOU MAY BEGIN RENEWING ONLINE ON NOVEMBER 1, 2008**

**This is Your 2009 License Renewal Notice**

A standard renewal form will not be mailed to you.

You will note this renewal form is very different. Several benefits to online renewal include: instant confirmation of receipt of the renewal information and your ability to print multiple copies of your newly renewed license at this time. We hope you will find online renewal easy and rewarding.

**Renew Online**

You need your License Number and your License Renewal PIN.

You may pay by credit card (MasterCard or Visa) or E-Check.

If you are unable to renew online, you may print a standard renewal form from our website. The renewal form is listed under "ADDITIONAL FORMS" in the right-hand drop-down box on the website:

[www.cosmetology.mt.gov](http://www.cosmetology.mt.gov)

If you do not have access to the Internet, and would like a renewal form sent to you, or need any assistance, please contact the Board Office at the phone number listed below.

Tel: (406) 841-2378  
Fax: (406) 841-2309  
email: [dlibsdcos@mt.gov](mailto:dlibsdcos@mt.gov)



**WEB SITE ADDRESS FOR RENEWAL**

**[www.cosmetology.mt.gov](http://www.cosmetology.mt.gov)**

or go to [www.LicenseRenewal.mt.gov](http://www.LicenseRenewal.mt.gov)  
Your information is listed below:

The Online License Renewal service will begin utilizing ePass Montana, Montana's new single sign-on solution. ePass Montana allows you to use one username and password to access many eGovernment services.

PIN: <<PIN>>

Lic No.: <<Lic No>> <<Registration Type>>

<<First Name>> <<Last Name>>  
<<Address 1>>  
<<City>> <<State>> <<Zip>>  
<<Foreign Address>>  
<<Country>>

**Address and Name Changes**

An address change can be made during the renewal process.

A name change cannot be made during the online renewal process. A name change will require a request in writing to the board office.

Please send this request to :

Board of Barbers and Cosmetologists  
301 South Park, 4th Floor  
PO Box 200512  
Helena MT 59620-0512

**Renewal Timeline**

- Begin renewing online: November 1st
- End of renewal period: January 1st
- Extended renewal period with late fee applied: February 17th. License becomes expired after this date.

**"Group" Payment Available to Organizations**

If your agency or organization reimburses your renewal fees, you can establish an account to allow for monthly invoicing, credit card payment or E-Check payment. Go to:

<https://app.mt.gov/registered/>

for more information.

**RENEWAL FEES:**

Barber:	\$45.00
Cosmetologist:	\$45.00
Electrologist:	\$45.00
Esthetician:	\$45.00
Manicurist:	\$45.00
School	\$150.00
<b>Instructors</b>	
Active:	\$60.00
Inactive:	\$50.00

**TOTAL FEES AFTER JANUARY 1ST:**

Barber:	\$90.00
Cosmetologist:	\$90.00
Electrologist:	\$90.00
Esthetician:	\$90.00
Manicurist:	\$90.00
School	\$300.00
<b>Instructors</b>	
Active:	\$120.00
Inactive:	\$100.00