

March 1, 2001

For more information, contact:

Gary Feland - 406-444-6166

Susan Good - 406-444-6171

**PSC TO HOST ELECTRIC DEREGULATION FORUM MARCH 8  
WITH MICHAEL ZENKER OF CAMBRIDGE ENERGY RESEARCH ASSOCIATES**

The Montana Public Service Commission will host a forum for discussion of electricity deregulation efforts with a focus on Montana's current situation on Thursday, March 8, at 2 p.m. at the PSC's offices in Helena.

Michael Zenker of Cambridge Energy Research Associates (CERA), a Boston-based energy consulting firm, will be the featured guest and will provide his insights into electricity deregulation issues.

Mr. Zenker is an expert on wholesale electricity markets in the western states and has extensive experience with California's electricity market. Prior to his employment with CERA, he was the energy trading manager at Southern California Edison where he was responsible for electricity and gas trading and dispatching Edison's nuclear, coal, gas/oil, hydro and power contract resources. Mr. Zenker has an MBA in nuclear engineering.

"Everyone who is concerned about what's happening with electricity prices in Montana will benefit from any information or advice an energy expert like Mr. Zenker can share with us," PSC Chairman Gary Feland said. "This forum will provide an opportunity for informal discussion of an issue that is critical to Montana right now."

All interested persons are invited to attend and participate in the forum. The PSC is located at 1701 Prospect Avenue in Helena.

###