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## **Senate Energy Committee postpones reporting energy bill**

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Senate Energy Committee Chair Jeff Bingaman (D-NM) was foiled again on Thursday in a second attempt to complete markup of renewable energy legislation. Instead, the committee now plans to finish the job in short sessions planned for Tuesday and Wednesday mornings next week.

Staff blamed scheduling conflicts and the Senate's focus on healthcare reform next week for the energy bill's delay. Others note that interest in the bill has waned among some Democrats now that a series of amendments this week from Sen. Byron Dorgan (D-ND) and the Committee's Ranking Member Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) has moved the bill away from promoting renewable energy and toward increasing traditional petroleum production.

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