

STATE OF WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

621 Woodland Square Loop S.E. • Lacey, Washington 98503 P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250 (360) 664-1160 • TTY 1-800-833-6384 or 711

May 19, 2022

NOTICE OF DISCUSSION AND VIRTUAL WORKSHOP (Set for Friday, June 3, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.)

Re: In the Matter of the Commission's implementation of participatory funding provisions for regulatory proceedings, Docket U-210595

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

On June 23, 2022, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) will hold a workshop to discuss its implementation of <u>RCW 80.28.430</u>, which provides statutory authority for energy utilities to provide financial assistance to certain organizations participating in regulatory processes before the Commission.

<u>RCW 80.28.430</u> directs the Commission to approve, approve with modifications, or reject proposed funding agreements and directs the Commission and utilities to prioritize funding for organizations that represent vulnerable populations or highly impacted communities.¹ In November 2021, the Commission issued a policy statement detailing its expectations for funding agreements under the new law and stated its intention to continue developing the funding program to ensure it prioritizes highly impacted communities and vulnerable populations.

Based on the guidance provided by the Commission's policy statement, Commission staff (Staff) have developed an implementation plan for the funding program, including implementation of existing funding agreements as well as further research and development to inform future iterations of the program and any additional future policy development. Staff invites interested persons in this docket to a workshop-style discussion on June 3, where Staff will present the Commission's high-level implementation plans for the participatory funding program. Staff invites feedback on those plans during the workshop.

¹ RCW 80.28.430 (4)

While the workshop will discuss the funding program broadly and generally, it will not discuss specific funding requests currently before the Commission and is not a forum for advancing arguments about specific funding requests.

Due to limitations on in-person gatherings caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission will conduct this stakeholder workshop virtually. Although parties may participate by telephone, participation by computer will make it easier to facilitate the discussion, which will include visual presentations and interactive discussion. To participate via Zoom, <u>click here to</u> join the meeting or copy the following link into your browser: <u>https://utc-wa-gov.zoom.us</u> and use the Meeting ID: 838 0606 2695 and the Passcode: 117428.

To participate by phone, call (253) 215-8782, and enter Meeting ID 838 0606 2695# and the Passcode: 117428#.

AGENDA

This meeting begins at 9:30 a.m. and will conclude at approximately 11:30 a.m.:

9:30 a.m.	Welcome and introductions
9:45 a.m.	Commission Staff presentation of participatory funding implementation plan
10: 15 a.m.	Q&A and feedback discussion on Staff implementation plan
10:45 a.m.	Break
11 a.m.	Discussion of Commission public engagement and learning opportunities prioritizing highly impacted communities and vulnerable populations.
11:30 a.m.	Workshop adjourns

MEETING PARTICIPATION

If you wish to participate and need an interpreter, one will be provided at no cost to you. If you need an interpreter, please contact the Commission at least one business day prior to the meeting by calling (360) 664-1140 or by sending an email to <u>paige.doyle@utc.wa.gov</u>.

The Commission is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to participants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for the meeting, please contact the Commission at least one business day prior to the workshop by calling (360) 664-1132 or by sending an email to <u>human_resources@utc.wa.gov</u>. For TTY service, please call the Washington Relay Service at 1-800-833-6384 or 711.

If you have questions regarding docket or this workshop, you may contact energy policy advisor Kate Griffith at <u>kate.griffith@utc.wa.gov</u> or (360) 742-2628.

AMANDA MAXWELL Executive Director and Secretary