Service Date: November 2, 2022



# 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

November 2, 2022

## NOTICE OF AGENDA FOR RECESSED OPEN MEETING (Set for Thursday, November 3, 2022, at 9 a.m.)

Re: In the Matter of Utility Wildfire Preparedness, Docket U-210254

#### TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

On November 3, 2022, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) will hear from electric utilities about the effectiveness of the utilities' fire mitigation and communication plans during the 2022 wildfire season at its recessed open meeting.

The recessed open meeting will be recorded and posted to the above-referenced docket after the meeting concludes.

#### **AGENDA**

The recessed open meeting begins at 9:00 a.m. and includes the following agenda:

9:00 a.m. Welcome and opening remarks

9:10 a.m. Virtual meeting ground rules and docket overview

9:20 a.m. Short presentations from the electric utilities followed by Commissioner Q&A

• Puget Sound Energy

• Avista Corporation d/b/a Avista Utilities

PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power & Light

10:30 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. Utility presentations continue

12:00 p.m. Adjourn

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#### DISCUSSION

Utilities should be prepared to discuss the following:

1. Experience with the 2022 wildfire season, including data and statistics related to:

- The number and intensity of wildfires
- Whether utility operations were impacted by fires and, if so, how and where
- Whether wildfires developed in areas defined as greater risk or in other areas designated as lesser risk
- Whether thresholds for use of the current set of fire mitigation tools (such as PSPS and dry land mode) are effective and working as intended, and if any new tools have been added or are needed
- 2. Strategies the utility used or explored this wildfire season to enhance situational awareness for its customers including:
  - Plans the utility used or developed to communicate with customers (including Highly Impacted Communities, Vulnerable Populations, medically vulnerable customers, and Access and Functional Needs customers) about wildfire risk for this season overall, as well as specific wildfire risks or events
  - Whether communication plans worked as intended
  - Information the utility provided to customers about the wildfire risk mitigation work it is performing
  - Changes to utility communication plans since April 2022
  - Types of wildfire communication sent to all customers and subsets of customers
  - Partnerships with first responders, land managers, and emergency operations personnel in preparing for the 2022 wildfire season, and
  - How those partnerships were leveraged in the utility's wildfire response.
- 3. Strategies the utility used or explored for this wildfire season to enhance situational awareness for utility operations, including:
  - Tools the utility used or developed to respond to wildfire threats, including any changes or improvements made to existing tools
  - Effectiveness of thresholds/triggering events for the current set of tools and any changes made to thresholds/triggering events for the current set of tools and
  - Whether the tools have been working as intended
- 4. Any additional lessons learned
- 5. Anticipated changes for the 2023 wildfire season

### **MEETING PARTICIPATION**

The Commission will hold the recessed open meeting virtually, and Commission headquarters will not be open to the public for in-person participation. Interested persons may listen to the meeting by telephone by calling (253) 215-8782 and using conference ID 992 0075 8178# and Passcode: 759393#. To participate in the meeting via Zoom on a computer or mobile device, please use the following link: Click to Join Meeting. If you wish to be placed on the interested parties contact list, please submit your request to the Commission's Records Center at records@utc.wa.gov.

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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 Paige Doyle at <a href="mailto:paige.doyle@utc.wa.gov">paige.doyle@utc.wa.gov</a>.

The Commission is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to participants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in the recessed open meeting, please contact the Commission at least one business day prior to the meeting by calling 1-888-333-9882 or by sending an email to <a href="mailto:consumer@utc.wa.gov">consumer@utc.wa.gov</a>. For TTY service, please call the Washington Relay Service at 1-800-833-6384 or 711.

If you have questions regarding this recessed open meeting, you may contact Andrew Roberts, Regulatory Analyst, at <a href="mailto:andrew.roberts@utc.wa.gov">andrew.roberts@utc.wa.gov</a> or (360) 664-1101.

AMANDA MAXWELL Executive Director and Secretary