



U-210553

## ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON

Public Counsel

800 Fifth Ave • Suite 2000 • MS TB-14 • Seattle, WA 98104-3188 • (206) 464-7744

June 29, 2023

**SENT VIA WUTC WEB PORTAL**

Amanda Maxwell  
Executive Director and Secretary  
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
P.O. Box 47250  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Received  
Records Management  
Jun 29, 2023

**Re: *Relating to the Commission's examination of energy decarbonization impacts and pathways for electric and gas utilities to meet state emissions targets, Docket U-210553, NWECC, Climate Solutions, Washington Conservation Action, and Public Counsel Request for Webinar***

Dear Director Maxwell:

The Public Counsel Unit of the Washington State Attorney General's Office (Public Counsel) respectfully submits this letter in support of the request from Northwest Energy Coalition (NWECC), Climate Solutions, and Washington Conservation Action for the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission's (UTC or Commission) to hold an advisory group webinar by July 14, 2023, in advance of an extended comment deadline, to answer questions about the Decarbonization Pathways interactive dashboard. Public Counsel appreciates that the Commission granted the accompanying request for extension of the deadline for comments, and believes the Commission should also set a date for a public webinar to maximize the benefit of the additional time granted for comment on the interactive dashboard.

Public Counsel believes additional discussion among interested parties is necessary to better understand the online dashboard. The information in the dashboard is confusing and it is difficult to understand how it is connected to past engagement efforts. Public Counsel questions whether the dashboard provides sufficient information for interested parties and the public to provide effective feedback.

We note that several other products from this Docket are delayed, including the Equity Focus Group and resulting report,<sup>1</sup> the "What We Heard" final engagement summary report,<sup>2</sup> and the

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<sup>1</sup> Sustainability Solutions Group, *Energy Decarbonization Pathways Engagement Plan* at 31, Wash. Utils. & Transp. Comm'n (June 2022). For readers' convenience please follow this link to the SSG report: <https://www.utc.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-06/Decarbonization%20Pathways%20Engagement%20Plan%20June%202022.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> *Id.* at 36.

To: Amanda Maxwell, Executive Secretary

Re: *Relating to the Commission's examination of energy decarbonization impacts and pathways for electric and gas utilities to meet state emissions targets*, Docket U-210553

Date: June 29, 2023

Page 2 of 2

final report to the legislature.<sup>3</sup> We believe it is critical for interested parties to provide meaningful feedback and for equity to be at the center of the report. We question whether that is possible without an explanatory webinar.

Therefore, to maximize the benefits and opportunity presented in the third round of comments, Public Counsel believes a webinar now in advance of the extended deadline is necessary to inform the final Decarbonization Pathways report.

If you have any questions about this filing, please contact the undersigned, Ann Paisner at (206) 573-1127 or [Ann.Paisner@ATG.WA.GOV](mailto:Ann.Paisner@ATG.WA.GOV), Shay Bauman at (206) 389-3040 or [Shay.Bauman@ATG.WA.GOV](mailto:Shay.Bauman@ATG.WA.GOV), or Corey Dahl at (206) 254-0562 or [Corey.Dahl@ATG.WA.GOV](mailto:Corey.Dahl@ATG.WA.GOV).

Sincerely,

/s/ *Ann Paisner*

ANN N.H. PAISNER, WSBA No. 50202

Assistant Attorney General

Public Counsel Unit

(206) 573-1127

[Ann.Paisner@ATG.WA.GOV](mailto:Ann.Paisner@ATG.WA.GOV)

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<sup>3</sup> See Notice of Opportunity to File Written Comments (issued July 26, 2021) (stating that the results of the examination must be reported to the appropriate legislative committees by June 1, 2023).