

BEFORE THE
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

CASCADE NATURAL GAS
CORPORATION,

Respondent.

DOCKET UG-240008

CASCADE NATURAL GAS CORPORATION

SIXTH EXHIBIT TO THE
DIRECT TESTIMONY OF NOEMI ORTIZ

March 29, 2024

What Role does the Equity Advisory Group (EAG) hold?

EAG members will advise Cascade Natural Gas Corporation on equity issues. This includes, but not limited to barriers surrounding vulnerable populations and highly impacted communities, customer benefit development, data support and development, and recommendations regarding utility compliance approaches.

Who is in the Equity Advisory Group?

The EAG is comprised of individuals and or organizations, who represent highly impacted communities and vulnerable populations. Members encouraged to participate and selected based on lived experience, expertise, and interest in the following areas.

- Tribal and Non-Tribal Community Engagement, Advocacy, and Outreach
- Economic, Environmental or Procedural Justice
- Public Health Advocacy
- Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency

Individuals and or Organizations must be Committed to:

- Improve equitable distribution of energy benefits
- Reduce burdens to highly impacted communities and vulnerable populations
- Address public health, economic and environmental benefits, along with energy security and resiliency

Equity Advisory Group Expectations:

The EAG members and Cascade Natural Gas team meet once a month to discuss equity related issues as noted in the EAG role and any other relevant information.

Members commit to the following:

- Attend 12 EAG meetings per year
- Allocate 2.5 hours per month for EAG meeting
 - 30 minutes reserved for EAG meeting prep (i.e., review agenda items, recommendation, discussion topics and slide reviews.)
 - 2 hours reserved for EAG meeting

Compensation:

Members will receive a \$200 stipend for the 2.5-hour time commitment and participation. The stipend is intended to help reduce barriers that may otherwise keep individuals and or organizations from joining Cascade's efforts to address equity issues surrounding vulnerable populations and highly impacted communities.

Members must be in attendance to receive compensation for each meeting, compensation will not be provided for missed meetings.

If you are interested in participating in our Equity Advisory Group, please use the link below to complete the EAG application.

<https://forms.office.com/r/Q7XbsQUrvL>