



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

January 18, 2024

NOTICE OF WORKSHOP

(Set for Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.)

By phone: (253) 215-8782

Meeting ID: 823 5309 6576

Passcode: 236440

Zoom: [Click here to join meeting](#)

and

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO FILE WRITTEN COMMENTS

(Due by Friday, March 23, 2024, at 5 p.m.)

Re: *Commission-led workshop on the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA),*
Docket U-240013

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

On November 15, 2021, President Biden signed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 (IIJA) PL 117-58, 135 Stat 429, which seeks to upgrade the nation's energy infrastructure for a clean, resilient, and secure energy future.¹ The IIJA funds over 350 programs to be overseen through more than a dozen federal departments and agencies.² On August 16, 2022, President Biden signed the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) PL 117-169, 136 Stat 1818, into law. The IRA is a fiscal policy instrument enacted by the federal government to counterbalance the effects of inflation in specific areas of the economy. It also represents the United States' single largest investment to date to modernize its energy system.³

¹ <https://www.energy.gov/ceser/articles/investing-secure-resilient-and-clean-energy-future>.

² The White House, A Guidebook to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Governments, and Other Partners (May 2022), <https://www.whitehouse.gov/build/guidebook/> [hereinafter IIJA Guidebook].

³ The White House, Building a Clean Energy Economy: A Guidebook to the Inflation Reduction Act's Investments in Clean Energy and Climate Action (January 2023), <https://www.whitehouse.gov/cleanenergy/inflation-reduction-act-guidebook/> [hereinafter IRA Guidebook].

The Commission expressed its intent to initiate a collaborative proceeding to discuss, address, and plan for benefits and opportunities resulting from the IRA and IIJA in the final orders issued in the 2022 general rate proceedings for Puget Sound Energy⁴ and Avista Corporation.⁵ This collaborative proceeding is open to all affected, or potentially affected, utilities and interested persons.

WORKSHOP

The Commission will convene a workshop on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., to discuss how investor-owned energy utilities are researching, evaluating, and incorporating IRA and IIJA opportunities into their planning processes, programs, and future filings. This workshop will be hosted in a hybrid setting, with in-person and virtual-access capabilities.

As we continue to work with external partners to provide additional perspectives and resources, a detailed agenda will be posted in the docket no later than Wednesday, February 28, 2024. However, to assist utilities and participants prepare for the workshop, a series of non-exhaustive questions is provided to serve as a foundation for the workshop discussion. The Commission also welcomes utilities and participants to pose additional discussion topics or questions during the workshop.

1. What is the utility's current evaluation process for IRA/IIJA opportunities?
 - a. Who in the utility is responsible?
2. Recent resources and draft IRS guidance have been provided (although still in the comment period); does the company believe there is adequate guidance to move forward?
3. What resources are you currently utilizing or relying on?
4. What opportunities are you currently pursuing?
5. How does your utility intend to maximize the benefits of the IRA/IIJA for its customers and system?
6. Are you collaborating with other utilities (in WA or national) or organizations?
7. How/Are you building these opportunities into the 2025 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) or next Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP)?
8. Have you considered how these opportunities can help offset utility customer costs embedded in rates for energy justice and reducing energy burden/insecurity?
9. What barriers remain to pursuing/successfully obtaining these opportunities?
10. Does the utility believe the Energy Infrastructure Reinvestment (EIR) loan program is a viable option? Please be prepared to provide the rationale for your response.
11. Do you believe the utilities can claim savings that result from federal rebates?
12. How should utilities treat federal rebates and tax credits in cost-effectiveness calculations?
13. Some of the federal incentives focus on fuel-switching. How do utilities account for these savings when it comes to the EIA targets?

⁴ *Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Puget Sound Energy*, Dockets UE-220066 and UG-210918 (consolidated), Final Order 24 ¶ 241 (Dec. 22, 2022).

⁵ *Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission vs. Avista Corporation, d/b/a Avista Utilities*, Dockets UE-220053 and UG-220054 (consolidated), Final Order 10 ¶ 83 (Dec. 12, 2022).

Interested persons may join the meeting via telephone by calling (253) 215-8782 and using Meeting ID: 823 5309 6576 and Passcode: 236440. To participate in the meeting using Zoom on a computer or mobile device, [click here to join](#).

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.

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) 664-1149 or by sending an email to stacey.brewster@utc.wa.gov.

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

WRITTEN COMMENTS

The Commission provides notice that interested persons may file comments in this Docket. However, these comments will not be summarized and may not be included in the formal agenda in advance of the workshop. The Commission requests written comments be received by Friday, March 23, 2024, to provide potential participants with adequate time for review in advance of the workshop.

Pursuant to WAC 480-07-250(3), written comments must be submitted in electronic form, specifically in searchable .pdf format (Adobe Acrobat or comparable software). As provided in WAC 480-07-140(5), those comments must be submitted via the Commission's web portal at www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing. If you are unable to submit documents via the portal, you may submit your comments by email to the Commission's Records Center at records@utc.wa.gov or by mailing an electronic copy to the Commission's Records Center on a flash drive, DVD, or compact disc that including the filed document(s). Comment submissions should include:

- The docket number of this proceeding (Docket U-240013).
- The commenting party's name.
- The title and date of the comment or comments.

The Commission will post on its website all comments that are provided in electronic format. The website is located at <https://www.utc.wa.gov/casedocket/2024/240013>.

If you are unable to file your comments electronically the commission will accept a paper document by mail.

If you need translation materials, please contact records@utc.wa.gov or call (360) 664-1234.

If you have any questions regarding this docket, you may contact Amy Andrews, Accounting and Energy Policy Advisor, by email at amy.andrews@utc.wa.gov.

Kathy Hunter
Acting Executive Director and Secretary