

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

**WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND  
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,**

**Complainant,**

**v.**

**CASCADE NATURAL GAS,**

**Respondent.**

**DOCKET UG-200568**

**EXHIBIT TO  
RESPONSE TESTIMONY OF  
SHAWN M. COLLINS (EXH. SMC-2)**

**DIRECTOR OF  
THE ENERGY PROJECT**

*Low-Income Issues*

*Professional Qualifications*

**NOVEMBER 19, 2020**

# Shawn M. Collins

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## Work History

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### Director, The Energy Project

Opportunity Council / WA Community Action Partnership

August 2015 – Current

The Energy Project is a collaborative effort between the WA Community Action Partnership (CAP) and the WA State Department of Commerce and is housed within Opportunity Council. Responsibilities as the Director include providing expert witness testimony on behalf of the 30 CAP agencies throughout WA in general rate case proceedings at the WA Utility and Transportation Commission, facilitation of state and region-wide stakeholder discussions and planning sessions pertaining to energy conservation and energy assistance programs serving low-income populations, formal advisement of utilities regarding programs serving low-income households, providing testimony at legislative hearings concerning low-income issues, management of a legal team and various consultants, budget development and management, program evaluation, strategic planning, presenting at national and regional energy affordability conferences, and various other roles and tasks.

### University Instructor

Western Washington University

September 2018 – December 2018

Taught the Energy Policy and Politics 350 class during Fall Quarter as an Adjunct Faculty Member at the Institute for Energy Studies, a multi-college collaboration that offers interdisciplinary undergraduate degrees to address the science, technology, policy, business and economic aspects of energy systems.

### Associate Director, Home Improvement Department

Opportunity Council

May 2014 – August 2015

Co-managed a department comprised of 20 employees organized in multiple work groups serving low-income households in four counties through various housing program services. Responsibilities included new program and fund development, creation and management of budgets, direct supervision of 10 staff members, communication with key funders and contract managers, strategic planning, and various outreach and public speaking engagements.

### Community Energy Challenge Manager

Opportunity Council

August 2009 – May 2014

Founding Team Member and Manager of a community based energy efficiency program with an annual budget of \$3 million. Range of duties included initial program design and implementation, supervision of an 8-person team, budgeting, oversight of >20 local home performance contracting firms, program evaluation, and community outreach.

### Community Services Outreach and Development Coordinator

Opportunity Council

April 2006 – August 2009

Position responsibilities included fund-raising for a variety of social service programs, including grant writing and special event coordination. Duties also included management of the Community Voice Mail Program, Basic Food Education and Outreach Program, and development, implementation, and evaluation of the Telecommunication Education and Training Program.

### Community Resource Coordinator / Program Development Specialist

Community Action of Skagit County

February 2005 - April 2006

Administrator of Federal Emergency Management Agency funds for Skagit County, manager for the Community Voice Mail Program, and Administrator for Skagit County Emergency Food Assistance Program funds. I also was responsible for the coordination of the Mobile Food Express Program,

conducted Basic Food outreach, engaged in grant writing and research, and provided direct employee supervision.

### **Community Relations Team Leader**

Community Action of Skagit County

March 2004 – February 2005

The responsibilities of this one-year National Service program through AmeriCorps\*VISTA position included the initiation of a new media relations program, event organization, grant writing, publishing a quarterly newsletter, volunteer instruction, database management, development of various agency publications, public outreach, and other fund-raising activities.

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### **Education**

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- Undergraduate Studies:** Eastern Illinois University - B.A. Graduated 2002  
Major: English Minor: Philosophy
- Post Graduate Studies:** Portland State University - Noncredit course  
Northwest Energy Policy and the Columbia River: Energy  
Resources Policy and Administration

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### **Leadership and Organizational Experience**

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- **Bonneville Power Administration Low-income Energy Efficiency Workgroup Steering Committee Member** – 2015 - Current
- **WA State LIHEAP Advisory Committee Member** – 2015 - Current
- **WA State Low-Income Weatherization Advisory Committee Member** – 2015 – Current
- **Board Member** -- Home Performance Washington. A nonprofit organization focused on energy efficiency in the residential sector. 2013-2015
- **2019 Recipient of NW Energy Coalition's 4 Under Forty Award** -- An award recognizing clean energy leaders under the age of 40 who model the passion and expertise needed to achieve a clean and affordable energy future

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### **Expert Witness Testimony**

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- Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, Complainant, Vs. Pacific Power and Light Company. Docket UE-191024
- Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, Complainant, Vs. Avista Corporation UE-190334 and UG-190225
- Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, Complainant, Vs. Cascade Natural Gas Corporation. Docket UG-190210
- Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, Complainant, Vs. Northwest Natural Gas 181053
- Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, Complainant, Vs. Puget Sound Energy (MacQuarie Sale). Docket U-180680
- Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, Complainant, Vs. Avista Corporation/Hydro One Merger. Docket U-170970
- Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, Complainant, Vs. Cascade Natural Gas Corporation. Docket UG-170929
- Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, Complainant, Vs. Avista Corporation. Dockets UE-170485 and UG-170486

- Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, Complainant, Vs. Puget Sound Energy. Docket UE-170033 & UG-170034
- Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, Complainant, Vs. Puget Sound Energy Docket UE-161123
- Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, Complainant, Vs. Cascade Natural Gas Corporation. Docket UG-152286
- Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, Complainant, Vs. Avista Corporation. Dockets UE-150204 and UG-150205
- Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, Complainant, Vs. Pacific Power and Light Company. Docket UE-152253

## Conference Presentations

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- **Featured Conference Presenter**

- 2019 Planning Association of WA Conference (Chelan, WA): *Utility Customer Assistance Programs: Pathways to Addressing Customer Affordability*
- 2019 Western Energy Institute Conference (Los Angeles, CA): *Real Solutions for the Low-Income Segment*
- 2018 Washington State Annual Community Action Conference (Winthrop, WA): *Developing Effective Partnerships In Order to Improve Services for Low-Income Populations*
- 2017 Community Action Partnership Annual Convention (Philadelphia, PA): *Protecting Utility Consumers in the Fast-Changing Markets: Community Action's Role; How Associations of Community Action or Weatherization Organize to Win BIG for Low Income Energy Consumers*
- 2017 National Energy and Utility Affordability Coalition Conference (Ft. Lauderdale, FL): *The Role of the Public Utility Commission to Ensure Fairness in Rate Setting for Low-income Communities*
- 2016 Efficiency Exchange Conference (Coeur d'Alene, ID): *Low Income Energy Efficiency Cross-Fit*
- 2015 Home Performance Coalition/ACI National Conference (New Orleans, LA): *Redefining Community: Community-Based Programs' Strategies for Success*
- 2015 NASCSP Weatherization Webinar Series (online): *Weatherization: Fast Forward to the Future*
- 2015 Home Performance Coalition/ACI Regional Northwest Conference (Seattle, WA): *Increasing Conversion Rates: Successful Strategies for Converting Audits to Retrofits*
- 2015 Washington's Energy Future Conference (Seattle, WA): *Valuing Efficiency's Non-Energy Benefits*
- 2014 Energy Out West (San Diego, CA): *Increasing Conversion Rates: Successful Strategies for Converting Audits To Retrofits*
- 2013 Home Performance Coalition/ACI Northwest Home Performance Conference (Seattle, WA): *Turning Program Successes into Long Term Sustainability: A Review of ARRA Funded Community Based Programs*
- 2012 Washington's Energy Future Conference (Seattle, WA): *An Energy Efficiency Pilot Project in NW WA State*
- 2012 Washington State Annual Community Action Conference (Seattle, WA): *A Case Study in Moderate Income Weatherization: The Community Energy Challenge*
- 2012 Home Performance Coalition/ACI National Conference (Baltimore, MA): *Community-Based Energy Efficiency: The Effect of Eight Community-Wide Pilot Projects on Transforming the Residential and Small Commercial Energy Efficiency Market*
- 2011 Home Performance Coalition/ACI National Conference (San Francisco, CA): *Changing the Market for Energy Efficiency in Whatcom County*