



**STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
**UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

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October 19, 2021

**NOTICE OF INTERIM POLICY GUIDANCE**  
**(To be issued by 5 p.m., Tuesday, November 30, 2021)**

RE: Relating to the Commission's examination of intervenor funding provisions for regulatory proceedings, Docket U-210595

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:**

Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 80.28.430, which became effective on July 25, 2021, authorizes energy utilities to provide financial assistance to certain organizations participating in regulatory processes before the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission). The statute further directs the Commission and utilities to prioritize organizations representing vulnerable populations or highly impacted communities for funding. To provide clarity to eligible organizations, the Commission initiated a proceeding in the above-referenced docket to develop a policy statement that will guide Commission orders administering funding agreements between regulated energy utilities and qualifying organizations.

On August 19, 2021, the Commission issued a Notice seeking written comments from interested stakeholders, and on September 28, 2021, the Commission convened a stakeholder workshop to gather input and feedback.

The Commission anticipates that it will issue a policy statement providing interim, high-level guidance for 2022 funding agreements on or before November 30, 2021. The Commission will continue its outreach to prioritized communities as it works to develop a program that meets the needs of those communities.

The Commission acknowledges that some organizations have already begun working with energy utilities to negotiate funding agreements. The Commission expects that any agreements currently being negotiated will be modified, if needed, to ensure consistency with the Commission's forthcoming guidance, and to include prioritized communities in any discussions

and negotiations to the furthest extent possible. Because the Commission anticipates issuing interim guidance for 2022 funding agreements, the Commission expects that the utilities, intervenors, and other stakeholders will negotiate agreements for regulatory proceedings starting on or before December 31, 2022. Parties should understand that the Commission may have different or additional expectations for agreements beginning in 2023 after the first year of funding implementation.

If you have questions regarding this Notice, you may contact energy policy advisor Kate Griffith at [kate.griffith@utc.wa.gov](mailto:kate.griffith@utc.wa.gov) or (360) 742-2628.

AMANDA MAXWELL  
Executive Director and Secretary