

Clean Energy Implementation Plan

Public Participation Plan

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1. INTRODUCTION

Washington's Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) was enacted into law in May 2019. CETA requires electric utilities to eliminate coal-fired electricity from their state portfolios by the end of 2025, use a carbon-neutral supply of electricity by 2030, and source 100 percent of their electricity from renewable or non-carbon-emitting sources by 2045.

Avista's Electric Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), filed on April 1, 2021, and updated on April 30, 2021, provides an outline for how Avista will meet its resource needs with the lowest reasonable cost mix of energy efficiency, generation, storage and demand response resources to meet Avista's energy requirements. The 2021 IRP includes Avista's Clean Energy Action Plan (CEAP), outlining Avista's resource acquisition plans over the next 10 years to meet CETA's requirements. The resources described in the CEAP are specific to the Washington portion of Avista's system needs.

In accordance with WAC 480-100-620 (12), Avista's CEAP:

- a) Identifies and is informed by the utility's ten-year cost-effective conservation potential assessment;
- b) Establishes a resource adequacy requirement;
- c) Identifies the potential cost-effective demand response and load management programs that may be acquired;
- d) Identifies renewable resources, non-emitting electric generation and distributed energy resources that may be acquired and evaluates how each identified resource may be expected to contribute to meeting the utility's resource adequacy requirement;
- e) Identifies any need to develop new, or expand or upgrade existing bulk transmission and distribution facilities; and,
- f) Identifies the nature and possible extent to which the utility may need to rely on alternative compliance options, if appropriate.

The CEAP identifies targets for energy efficiency, demand response, and clean energy resources, for the 2021 Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP). The CEIP is a four-year plan establishing specific implementation steps and actions to meet and finalize the targets in the CEAP. The CEIP will include proposed interim and specific implementation actions for the targets established in the CEAP for energy efficiency, demand response, and renewable energy targets. The draft of Avista's first CEIP will be filed no later than August 15, 2021 with the final document filed by October 1, 2021.

2. BACKGROUND

Public participation will be integral to the development of a successful CEIP. Avista recognizes the importance of effective public participation for improving its decision-making process and including the unique viewpoints and knowledge which non-utility stakeholders bring to the table. This public participation is essential to the development of the IRP and CEAP, and will continue to play a key role in developing future actions to implement the targets established in the CEIP.

Avista will continue to rely on the expertise and unique skill sets of existing and new advisory groups, such as the Equity Advisory Group¹ (EAG), to review proposed actions for meeting the requirements outlined in RCW 19.405.050(2), as well as implementing the targets established in the CEIP. The primary function of the EAG is to review, consult and advise Avista to ensure all customers are benefitting from the transition to clean energy through the equitable distribution of energy and nonenergy benefits and reduction of burdens to vulnerable populations and highly impacted communities, collectively referred to as Named Communities. Additionally, the EAG will help guide the Company through the development of its public outreach strategy to ensure Avista customers have a platform for educational workshops and public meeting participation as it pertains to the development of its CEIP.

3. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The CEIP requires the development of specific actions the Company will take over the next four years to demonstrate the progress being made towards 2030 and 2045 clean energy goals.

Avista's EAG, existing advisory groups, and customers will work together to ensure all customers are benefitting from the transition to clean energy through the requirements to pursue all cost-effective conservation and demand responses, while maintaining and protecting the safety and reliability of its electric system.

To effectuate a robust and meaningful engagement process, Avista will incorporate the IAP2's Public Participation Spectrum (Figure 1). IAP2's Public Participation Spectrum designed to assist with the selection of the level of participation that defines the public's role in any participation process and is found in many public participation plans. For Avista, we will use the Spectrum as a reference guide with a primary focus on the first four areas: Inform, Consult, Involve and Collaborate. Avista does not anticipate using the empower level of engagement with any of its advisory groups given the final responsibility of decisions ultimately lies in the hands of Avista to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements, tariff rules, and Company initiatives. Customers will have the opportunity to

¹ The EAG will be a permanent group as part of Avista's commitment to ensuring equity is considered in program design and implementation going forward.

provide input to the CEIP through existing communication channels, public participation meetings, and in consultation with the applicable advisory groups.

Figure 1: IAP2’s Public Participation Spectrum²

IAP2’s Public Participation Spectrum

Developed by the International Association for Public Participation

INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT				
INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
Public Participation Goal:	Public Participation Goal:	Public Participation Goal:	Public Participation Goal:	Public Participation Goal:
To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problems, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision-making in the hands of the public.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Per WAC 480-100-655 Avista’s participation efforts will include representation from existing advisory groups, the EAG, and its general customer base. Each group is described in more detail below.

While Avista will endeavor to work closely with customers and advisory groups, the methods of interaction with customers for the development of its first CEIP may be limited in scope due to a condensed timeline for development, and COVID-19 pandemic limitations. In future CEIP’s, Avista anticipates a higher level of outreach and engagement from all participants throughout the process.

Advisory Group Participation:

Avista has three existing advisory groups that include the IRP Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), the Energy Assistance Advisory Group (EAAG), the Energy Efficiency

² Developed by the International Association for Public Participation.

Advisory Group (EEAG), and the Company participates in the Transportation Electrification Stakeholder Group (TE).³

The TAC, EAAG, and EEAG will be involved throughout the implementation period via the CEIP Public Participation meetings, through their ongoing regularly scheduled advisory group meetings, and throughout the implementation period as needed. Avista will continue to utilize existing advisory group processes throughout the CEIP implementation process with the guiding principles of inform, consult, and involve. Existing advisory groups are instrumental in the development of the targets for energy assistance and efficiency, demand response, renewable energy, and beginning in 2022, electric transmission and distribution projects. With the existing foundational knowledge advisory group members bring, as well as other key Company experts, these advisory groups will continue to provide input, and share feedback for implementation of their respective sections of the CEIP through existing processes. Input from existing advisory group members will help inform the specific actions and programs implemented with associated customer benefit metrics.

In accordance with WAC 480-100-655(1) and (1b) the Company will involve existing Advisory groups, in its development of the initial CEIP and the biennial CEIP through both CEIP public participation meetings and regularly scheduled advisory group meetings. However, due to the time constraints associated with this initial CEIP, the advisory group members primary method of involvement in the initial CEIP will be via the CEIP public participation meetings described in Chapter 5 below. All advisory group members were notified of the upcoming schedule for the CEIP public participation meetings via email in early May 2021, and the schedule was posted to the Company's Clean Energy webpage. In addition, CEIP updates will be provided at regularly scheduled advisory group meetings during the development phase, and throughout the implementation phase for resources directly attributed to each specific individual advisory group, as needed.

Advisory group members, as well as customers, can also request additional information or provide comments in the following ways:

- email at ceta@avistacorp.com
- telephone at 509-495-2255
- mavista.com/ceta
- or by contacting an Avista staff person on their respective advisory group

Email reminders and meeting invitation links are sent to all advisory group members approximately one week prior to the regularly scheduled CEIP public participation meetings. Engaging in the CEIP public participation meetings will not limit advisory group members from participation in their individual advisory groups or any other groups at Avista. In accordance with WAC 480-100-655(1)(f) and WAC 480-100-655 (h) meeting presentations will be posted to the webpage approximately three days prior to the meetings and all data input files, when applicable, will be posted to the webpage in native file format.

³ The Transportation Electrification Stakeholder Group is a statewide group comprised of all investor owned utilities and interested stakeholders. This group will not be involved in the development of the CE.

CEIP public participation meetings will be documented and advisory group member comments and responses will be posted to the webpage via meeting minutes and recordings.⁴ In accordance with WAC 480-100-655(1)(h) an appendix will be filed with the final CEIP including comments and responses received from all participants (advisory group members and customers), along with Avista’s responses throughout this process. In the event input is not considered in the final CEIP, Avista will document the reasons for exclusion within the appendix or it will be added to a “parking lot” which will be maintained for future consideration in the event the exclusion was due to timing or analytic constraints. Avista may also have follow up conversations with individual participants for clarification, questions or comments as needed.

Avista will continue to convene regular advisory group meetings during the development of the initial CEIP and throughout the implementation period 2022-2025, as well as have quarterly CEIP Public Participation Plan meetings. The current meeting schedule frequency and approximate timing is reflected in the table below. This schedule will be reviewed at minimum annually and adjustments will be made as needed. Other meetings will be held throughout the implementation period as needed.

Table 1: Avista’s Existing Advisory Groups

Advisory Group	Frequency
Energy Efficiency Advisory Group	Quarterly
Energy Assistance Advisory Group	Every Other Month
Equity Advisory Group	Every Other Month
Technical Advisory Committee – Pre-IRP Development	As needed
Technical Advisory Committee – IRP Development	See IRP Workplan
CEIP Public Participation Plan	Quarterly, as needed

The Company will file a IRP workplan with the Commission that outlines the TAC meeting schedule and process for developing the next IRP January 1, 2023. Prior to this filing, check-ins through email or special meetings will be conducted, as needed, while actions are being implemented.

All advisory group members will be notified of upcoming public meetings being help by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) pertaining to the CEIP via email, once the schedule is available.

Customer Participation:

As previously stated, Avista will endeavor to consider and include input from all customers in the development of the CEIP in accordance with WAC 480-100-655(2)(a)(ii). All

⁴ Only the public portion of the CEIP Public Participation will be posted to the webpage. In abundance of caution in terms of audience understanding that recordings would be posted to the website for public review, the Company’s initial meeting held on May 17, 2021 was not posted to the webpage.

Washington electric customers were notified via email in early May 2021 of the upcoming public participation process for the development of the CEIP. Customers in Named Communities are primarily represented by EAG members for the initial CEIP. In this context, these members are able to speak not only to equity issues, but also aid in identifying what benefits and barriers to participation are felt in these communities. As the CEIP is an iterative process, we anticipate beginning a more robust process to help identify how we might reach those communities, as well as all customers in the upcoming year as discussed in the Barriers to Participation section below.

Except for individual advisory group meetings, Customers may participate in the process in the same manner described above in the section labeled “Advisory Group Participation”. In addition, Avista will survey all electric customers in late June 2021 to solicit additional input on Customer Benefit Indicators (CBIs), priorities and access to customer programs, etc. Input received during the CEIP public participation meetings, along with survey results will aid in the determination of customer benefit indicators described below.

The Company is currently preparing collateral to educate and solicit participation for the development of its CEIP. This information will be provided through the following channels:

- Avista Connections Newsletter
- Bill Inserts
- Informational Flyers to be distributed to community agencies
- Surveys
- Breakout Rooms at CEIP Public Participation Meetings
- Company’s CETA webpage

For future CEIPs, Avista in collaboration with its EAG, will explore the utilization of new methods for offering public comment opportunities, such as open house forums, multi-lingual sessions, “go-to-you” meetings or other platforms as appropriate to garner additional participation. Avista will utilize its regularly scheduled EAG meetings beginning in November to further identify what outreach strategies may be most impactful in order to educate, inform and solicit feedback from all customers, with a special emphasis on named communities. EAG members lived experiences and unique skillset will provide an invaluable perspective into how we may be able to encourage participation and provide an avenue for customers voices to be heard.

Finally, a survey will be sent to the Avista Advisors⁵ group to obtain feedback on our education and outreach efforts in this first CEIP. This survey will be performed post-filing in order to gauge how effective our outreach strategies were during this initial CEIP filing process and solicit feedback on how we may make improvements going forward.

⁵ *Avista Advisors* is a select group of customers Avista uses to survey various topics. This group can be used to solicit feedback related to customer benefit indicators.

Barriers to Participation

Avista currently does not have an established over-arching Company-wide plan or process to identify and remove public participation barriers such as language, cultural, or economic barriers. The identification of barriers, development of solutions, and implementation of an effective multi-lingual communication strategy (among others) will be a lengthy process, but one that the Company feels is extremely important to the success of the CEIP development along with the development of other customer programs. Avista will develop a plan to address these barriers within 12 months of filing its initial CEIP and will begin implementation of the plan during the 2022-2025 CEIP time frame.

However, to begin the process of reaching Spanish-speaking customers, the Company has begun the process of translating its CETA website, newsletters, bill inserts, and informational flyers. We anticipate this to be complete by the September 2021 outreach meeting. During the 2021 public participation meetings, Avista will utilize the closed captioning feature within Zoom to ensure customers with hearing impairments have the ability to engage throughout this process. The Company is also working towards Spanish translation services for CEIP meetings and translated materials will be available through Avista’s clean energy webpage.

With guidance from the EAG (described below), Avista has been able to identify some barriers specific to its service territory and named communities along with some potential solutions:

Table 2: Barriers to Participation

Barriers	Strategies
Non-English Speaking Communication methods only in English results in lack of participation for those who cannot understand the outreach or information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Translate website and meeting materials in Spanish• Provide translated materials to community organizations• Outreach to “trusted advisors” who may be able to translate to non-English speaking customers
Cultural Barriers Customers may be part of a culture that may not reach out for help, or undocumented workers afraid of retaliation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outreach to “trusted advisors” used to help inform customers• Education may alleviate fears of participation
Economic Barriers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide printed material to individuals who do not have internet access and can only call into the public meetings

This process will be on-going and refined with help from the EAG, which will continue to provide guidance on timing, methods, and identification of other barriers to help reach all customers, including those in Named Communities.

Equity Advisory Group (EAG):

In accordance with WAC 480-100-655(1)(b) the EAG has been formed to advise Avista on equity issues including, but not limited to:

- Vulnerable population designation;
- Customer equity benefit indicator development; and,
- Recommendations for the equitable distribution of energy and non-energy benefits and reduction of burdens to vulnerable populations and highly impacted communities.

Per WAC 480-100-655(1)(b) members of the EAG include representation from environmental justice and public health advocates, tribes, highly impacted communities and vulnerable populations, as well as other relevant groups. In addition, the Company has contracted with a consultant with expertise in equity, to facilitate EAG discussions and meetings. Avista will endeavor to fully utilize the knowledge and expertise this group brings, especially as it relates to equity issues and how all customers may benefit from the transition to clean energy.

Included as Appendix A is a preliminary draft of the EAG charter, which includes a description of the recruitment process, purpose and goals, timelines, and structure. Also included is a list of the 2021 EAG members and communities or interest groups they represent.

Membership in the EAG is open to electric customers and special interest stakeholders that represent individual communities. In addition to the representation requirements laid out in the CETA rules above, one of Avista's objectives is to engage individuals from under-served, resource-constrained, and marginalized groups and communities within the Company's service territory. This is also intended to avoid duplication of members that currently participate in other Avista advisory groups. Further, this allows the EAG to have the unique perspective of not only customers in named communities, but also overall customer representation. Included as Appendix C is a list of represented communities that actively participate in Avista's EAG. With an emphasis on ensuring that all voices are heard and engaged, active participation has been encouraged as a criterion for attending EAG meetings. During recruitment for EAG members, all interested persons were asked to complete a Member Interest Form (Appendix D), that provides a means for ensuring the group's objectives are in alignment with the individual's interests and capturing each person's contact information, want for compensation, and area(s) and/or interests they represent.

Table 3 below includes the anticipated 2021 meeting schedule for the EAG:

Table 3: Tentative EAG Schedule 2021

Date	Agenda Items
May 13, 2021 (two meetings)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductory “meet and greet” with members • EAG purpose and Q&A
May 20, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEIP Public Participation Meeting #1. (EAG optional) • Overview of CETA, • Review Health Disparities map and Vulnerable Population information
June 9 & 10, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify Customer Barriers and Burdens in the transition to clean energy
June 17, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEIP Public Participation Meeting #2 with EAG Closed Breakout Session • Identify and prioritize Customer Benefit Indicators
July 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEIP Public Participation Meeting #3 with EAG breakout session • Utilization of EAG input
August 17, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEIP Public Participation Meeting #4 (EAG optional) • Review associated with CBI and Resource Mix Results • Utilization of EAG input
September 2, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEIP Public Outreach (EAG optional)
Mid-September 2021 TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EAG comments on draft CEIP • Discussion around best practices going forward • Number of meetings, time of meeting, etc.
Every Other Month As Needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion of implementation steps/changes in current plan • Other CETA or Company requirements which may need feedback

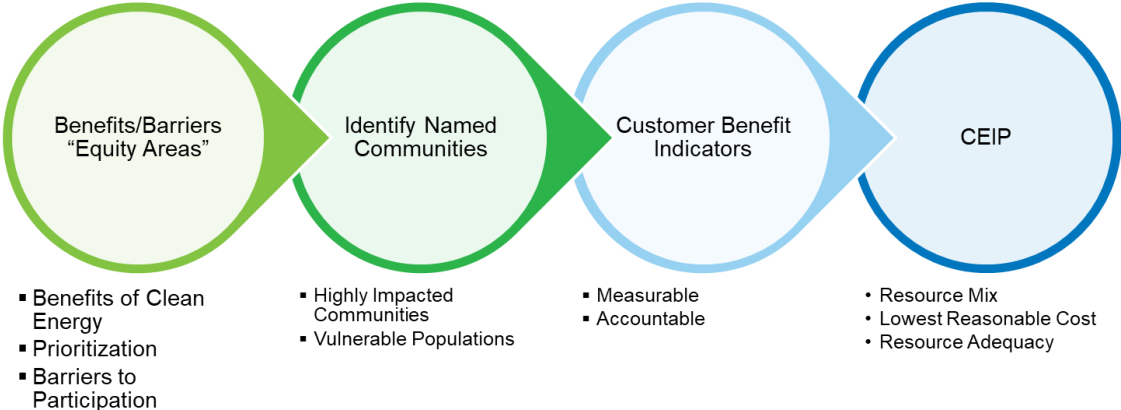
The EAG will continue to meet throughout the CEIP implementation period. In the September 2021 meeting, discussions will be held as to the quantity and time of future meetings, as well as other concerns. The schedule may be revised based on EAG feedback. That said, meetings will regularly be held to address material changes in programs, investments, or resources in order to ensure customer benefit indicators remain appropriate. In addition, we will continue to solicit input as we develop outreach plans for customers and programs/steps to address barriers to participation in the CEIP.

Lastly, in accordance with WAC 480-100-655(1), during the July and August 2021 EAG meetings, discussions will take place pertaining to the feedback received by EAG members and how that feedback was utilized or not utilized and why.

5. CUSTOMER BENEFIT INDICATOR DEVELOPMENT

As discussed above, Avista will regularly engage with the EAG in the development of CBIs, among other things. The illustration below provides an overview of the steps Avista will take to establish CBIs for the initial CEIP.

Figure 2: CBI Development Strategy



The development of CBIs begins with the identification of the benefits of clean energy, what barriers may be limiting our customers from equitably receiving those benefits or reductions in burdens. Once these steps are taken, CBIs can be developed to identify progress towards meeting the stated goals.

With the use of an independent facilitator with over a decade of equity experience, Avista will meet separately with the EAG group on June 9th and 10th to brainstorm and identify the barriers and burdens (including language, cultural, etc.) faced within our service territory in the following equity areas:

- Affordability and Availability
- Access to Clean Energy
- Community Development
- Energy Security and Resiliency
- Environmental
- Health and Well Being

Included as Appendix B is the pre-work that will be provided to the EAG prior to the June 9th and 10th meetings to ensure a beneficial and effective discussion. Discussions will also consider if there are ways to measure these benefits and burdens and the impact Avista may have throughout the CEIP implementation.

Avista, with the help of its EAG facilitator, will review the CBI and barriers to participation lists, consolidated where appropriate, and identify methods of measurement, if possible. These results will be shared during the public participation meeting on June 17th where breakout rooms will be utilized to allow the EAG to identify and prioritize what is most important in one breakout, with customers and advisory group members in another. To solicit additional feedback, a follow-up survey will be sent within one week of the meeting. The feedback received will be tracked, documented, and included in the prioritization. The net result will be the customer benefit indicators included filed in the CEIP.

6. PROJECT MILESTONES

The goal of the CEIP is to develop an implementation plan of specific actions to be taken over the next four years to demonstrate the progress being made towards clean energy goals by 2030 and 2045. In order to meet these compliance requirements, Avista must demonstrate that all customers are benefitting from the transition to clean energy through:

- The equitable distribution of energy and non-energy benefits and reduction of burdens to Named Communities;
- Long-term and short-term public health and environmental benefits; and,
- Energy security and resiliency.

The project milestones to meet these requirements are illustrated in Table 4 below. Avista will improve this process for the CEIP update and future CEIPs as more time will be available to proactively engage stakeholders and customers. Avista will engage with its existing advisory groups, newly formed equity advisory group and its customers to accomplish the milestones outlined below.

Table 4: Customer Benefit Project Milestones

	Milestone	Description
a	Identify Named Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highly impacted communities will be defined via the Department of Health Cumulative Impact Assessment for our service territory • Vulnerable Populations will be defined with a rating of 9-10 socioeconomic and sensitivities on the Department of Health, Health Disparities Map for our service territory • Avista will request feedback from EAG and Public Participation attendees on these maps

b	Identify inequity areas and develop CBIs for both Named Communities and all customers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avista will work with the EAG to identify equity areas within each area determined in part (a) • EAG will identify the barriers and burdens associated with equity areas • EAG will identify CBIs where applicable • Avista will supplement EAG CBIs where applicable
C	Establish target information for identified CEAP Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy Efficiency: as described in Biennial Conservation Plan (BCP) will include energy and non-energy benefits • Demand Response: program details, timing, budgets, measurement and verification, location • Renewable Energy: details of project, budgets, location, timing
d	Correlate CBIs with resource mix	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avista will determine each resource’s contribution to overall customer benefits from the transition to clean energy • Ensure CBIs are directly related to implementation actions for each target and combine where necessary • Avista will solicit feedback of correlated CBIs and its resource mix with Advisory Groups and EAG, where applicable
e	Develop metrics to measure CBIs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avista will identify and develop measurable methods for each CBI prioritized by EAG and CEIP Public Participation members
F	Calculate baseline measurements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avista will develop baseline CBI measurements • Avista will regularly communicate the CBI metrics to its customers to show the progress against the baseline through its website or other measures

7. CEIP PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

Figure 3 below illustrates the preliminary topics of the CEIP public participation, as well as the EAG meetings, from May 2021 through the filing of the CEIP in October 2021. In compliance with WAC 480-100-655(2)(c), the Company will encourage public participation and provide meaningful education in broadly terms throughout its CEIP public meetings. Communication methods encouraging public participation are outlined in Chapter 4, Public Participation in the the Barriers to Participation subsection.

The CEIP public meetings outlined below will include a public participation component

including EAG participants. EAG members will also have a separate breakout session within the public meetings that indicate EAG involvement. Avista anticipates the implementation process of securing resources and establishing programs to be ongoing and will convene additional meetings when deemed necessary. These meetings will occur to address specific actions or key events. The Company will post meeting agenda's and presentations in accordance with WAC 480-100-655 (1)(g). Meeting schedules will be shared annually with EAG members and its customers and posted on the Company's website.

Figure 3: CEIP Meeting and Agenda Schedule

<p>May 13, 2021 EAG-May 20, 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Avista’s existing clean energy and total resource mix • Overview of CETA • Review Department of Health’s Environmental Health Disparities Map • Discuss CEAP and CEIP expectations
<p>June 9 or 10, 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review order for Customer Benefit Indicators • Review preliminary CBIs and collaborate on the development of new CBIs • Collaborate on Barriers to Participation
<p>June 17, 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review CEAP Targets • Review CEIP methodology, review CBIs • Review Renewable Energy Credit Methodology • Breakout rooms for EAG and customers/ Advisory Groups
<p>July 15, 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review CBI measurement metrics and associated resource mix • Resource details • Breakout rooms for EAG and customers/ Advisory Groups
<p>August 17, 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review correlated CBIs, resource mix and metrics • Review Cost Cap calculations • Miscellaneous (non-energy impacts, etc.) • Next steps for CEIP and public engagement
<p>September 1, 2021 EAG Mid-September</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-technical public outreach • EAG next step
<p>October 1, 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Clean Energy Implementation Plan Filed

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Comments and feedback from advisory group members and the public are welcome throughout the CEIP development process, and any time during the implementation timeframe. Comments can be provided electronically by visiting www.myavista.com/ceta, by sending an email to ceta@avistacorp.com, or by contacting the Company at 1-800-227-9187 and asking to speak to someone about the CEIP. Key dates for CEIP public participation meetings and customer comment review dates are outlined in Table 5 below:

Table 5: Public Participation Opportunities 2021

Date	Topic	Comment Date
June 17, 2021	Customer Benefit Indicators methodology	June 30, 2021
July 16, 2021	Customer Benefit Indicators, and associated Resource Mix Resource Details	August 1, 2021
August 17, 2021	Components of overall Resource Plan Metrics for measurement of Customer Benefit Indicators	August 30, 2021
August 15, 2021	DRAFT Clean Energy Implementation Plan FILED	
September 1, 2021	Public Outreach	September 6, 2021
September 1, 2021	Notice to customers in compliance with WAC 480-100-655(3) codified as 19.405 RCW	
October 1, 2021	FINAL Clean Energy Implementation Plan FILED	

Comments received and the Company's responses will be made available at www.myavista.com/ceta. Per WAC 480-100-655(2)(g)(iv) final drafts of the CEIP and biennial updates will be posted to Avista's Clean Energy webpage.

In accordance with WAC 480-100-655 (1)(f), advisory group members may comment on the Company's CEIP filings with the Commission.

Pursuant to WAC 480-100-655(3), Avista will provide its Washington electric customers with a written notice within 30 days of filing its CEIP with the Commission.

9.Closing

Through collaborative efforts with the Company's advisory groups and through customer outreach initiatives, Avista will continue to effectively make progress towards its clean energy goals while ensuring all customers are benefitting from the transition to clean energy. Although this is Avista's initial Public Participation Plan, the development of the

Plan along with the Company's CEIP will continue to be an iterative process with feedback and comments from internal and external parties being utilized to improve its processes through each iteration.

Appendix A

Clean Energy Implementation Plan

Public Participation Plan

Draft Equity Advisory Group Charter

Equity Advisory Group

Draft 2021 Charter

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Introduction

Washington’s Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA), passed by legislature in 2019 requires utilities to ensure an equitable distribution of energy benefits and a reduction of energy burdens on vulnerable populations and highly impacted communities.

Avista Utilities (Avista or “Company”) is forming an Equity Advisory Group (EAG or “Group”) that will inform the development of the Company’s Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP) to meet regulatory requirements of CETA, as well as advise and provide guidance on other company activities.



Background

On May 7, 2019 Governor Jay Inslee signed into law Senate Bill 5116, or CETA, which commits Washington to an electricity supply free of greenhouse gas emissions by 2045. To meet this standard, utilities will need to replace coal-based resources with renewable power sources. The law includes provisions to protect customers with special attention for those who are economically disadvantaged and those most impacted by climate change and environmental pollution. Utilities have new requirements to provide energy assistance to low income customers, while also tailoring programs to meet the needs of marginalized populations and households with high energy burdens.

The legislation also requires utilities to use a framework that enables the facilitation of public participation and oversight while working to meet reduction goals. Specifically, the law requires utilities to convene an equity advisory group per WAC 480-100-655.

WAC 480-100-655(1)(b)

A utility must maintain and regularly engage an external equity advisory group to advise the utility on equity issues including, but not limited to, vulnerable population designation, equity customer benefit indicator development, data support and development, and recommended approaches for the utility's compliance with WAC 480-100-610 (4)(c)(i). The utility must encourage and include the participation of environmental justice and public health advocates, tribes, and representatives from highly impacted communities and vulnerable populations in addition to other relevant groups

The formation of Avista’s EAG provides a forum for interested parties to engage with the Company in meaningful dialogues to ensure that a clean energy future does not disproportionately impact marginalized population groups and communities that tend to experience undue challenges pertaining to energy as well as other environmental, health and economic impacts.

Purpose

Avista's Equity Advisory Group will provide consultation for various endeavors across the Company to ensure that all customers are benefiting from the transition to clean energy through the equitable distribution of energy and nonenergy benefits and reduced energy burdens to vulnerable populations and high impacted communities.

Initially, the group will be responsible for providing review, input and feedback on the following topics as they relate to Avista's inaugural 2021 Clean Energy Implementation Plan:

Vulnerable Population Designation – Washington State Department of Health's (DOH) Cumulative Impact Analysis identifies highly impacted communities within the Avista service territory. The EAG will provide additional insights into these communities, as well as identifying other communities and populations that may not have been identified in the impact analysis.

Equity Indicator Development – The EAG will integrate equity considerations into the development of customer benefit indicators and measurements for the impacted populations and include them in energy planning and decision making. This work is critical for ensuring that all customers benefit from the transition to clean energy through the equitable distribution of energy and nonenergy benefits and reduction of burdens.

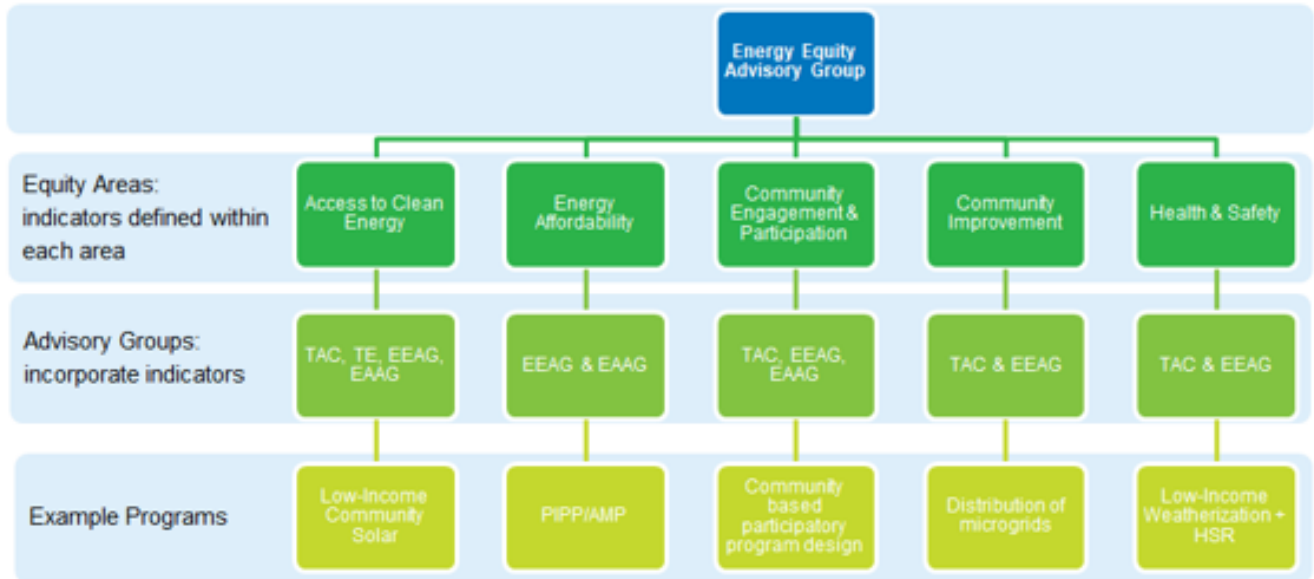
Data Support and Development – The Group will assist in reviewing and identifying data needed to inform the development and analysis of equity indicators and vulnerable population designation.

Recommended Approaches for Equitable Distribution of Benefits: The EAG may be called upon to inform and advise on the Company's energy equity priorities and other Company projects as needed. This may include providing feedback on Avista's products and services, service resiliency objectives, validating if strategy and tactics are appropriate for implementation and, most importantly, share objective comments on the activities such as the Company's Electrification Transportation Initiative.

Ultimately, the Group will provide guidance and support activities to incorporate equity considerations into the Company's future Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), with significant emphasis on the inaugural – and future – Clean Energy Implementation Plans. To guarantee that the benefits of clean energy transformation efforts are accessible and affordable, that burdens are reduced and mitigated, and that the Company is held accountable for these equity aspects, the EAG will:

- Highlight and mitigate barriers to customer participation
- Help the Company develop understanding of equity issues

Avista has a variety of existing advisory groups for initiatives related to its Integrated Resource Plan, Energy Efficiency, Energy Assistance, and Transportation Electrification. The following chart illustrates how the EAG will inform the various Company advisory groups and their initiatives.



Acronym	Advisory Group Purpose
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee – advisory group to the Integrated Resource Plan process – roadmap for how Avista will meet customers energy needs 20 years from now; revised every two years.
EEAG	Energy Efficiency Advisory Group – advisory group to the energy efficiency implementation department that offers rebates for efficiency improvements to homes and businesses.
TE	Transportation Electrification Stakeholder Group – incorporation of electric vehicles and related infrastructure to the energy grid
EAAG	Energy Assistance Advisory Group – advisory group for bill assistance programs

Goals

The goals for the EAG in the first year include the establishment of the group’s Charter, recruitment of members and preliminary work to identify and prioritize highly impacted communities. The group will also discuss customer benefit indicators that will be used to ensure that Avista’s work is making progress in reducing burdens and ensuring the benefits of clean energy are experienced by all customers equitably.

The Charter will provide an overview of the EAG purpose, 2021 goals, as well as Group and meeting construct. To help with the completion of a Charter a preliminary consultative group comprised of

community representatives will determine the essential Group concepts such as membership requirements, appropriate meeting schedules (i.e. daytime, evenings or weekends) and compensation, and any other factors that may help to provide an adequate foundation for the EAG.

Additionally, the preliminary group will provide recommendations for engaging with populations designated as impacted and/or marginalized to recruit for EAG membership.

Once the Group has been established, an introductory meeting will be conducted to form a shared understanding of the objectives for the first year of EAG activities. Through the recruitment process and at the introductory meeting, candidates will be advised of the request to participate in four 2021 EAG meetings and the option to attend public meetings.

With the Equity Advisory Group in place, work will begin to determine the indicators and weighting factors that will be used to confirm the Company is advancing its work for equitable clean energy transformation. The Group will also help identify the vulnerable population determinates based on the preliminary analytical work conducted by Avista and the DOH Cumulative Impact Analysis and associated map. EAG members will be instrumental in the development of the timing and extent of meaningful and inclusive public participation throughout the development and duration of the CEIP.

Group Composition and Structure

In accordance with *WAC 480 100 655(1)(b)* the Equity Advisory Group should include participants from the areas of:

- Environmental Justice;
- Public Health Advocates;
- Tribes;
- Representatives from highly impacted communities and vulnerable populations, that may include seniors, veterans, Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC), low-income, and individuals living with disability;
- Urban and rural representation; and
- Additional individuals/organizations that may be identified by the Group members.

The EAG should include members who provide “lived experience” and expertise and have the potential to receive the benefit of the Company’s efforts relating to compliance with CETA.

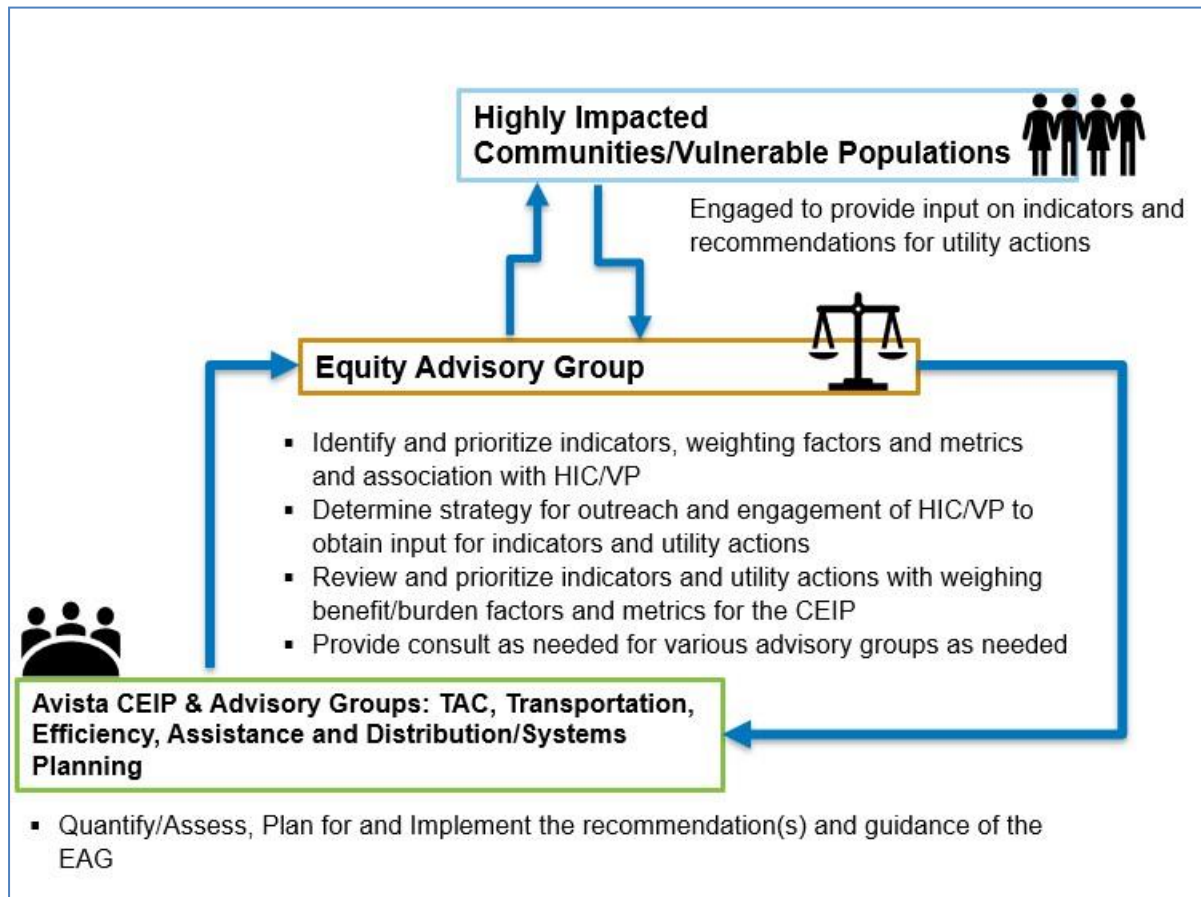
To ensure that the benefits to clean energy transformation are accessible and affordable, the energy burdens are reduced and mitigated, and the Company is accountable for these equity aspects, the EAG will:

- Highlight and develop ways to mitigate barriers to customer participation;
- Help the Company develop better understanding and incorporation of equity issues
- Shape the processes and construct for the EAG

Information obtained from the EAG in these areas will be shared and discussed with the Company’s other existing advisory groups to disseminate appropriate strategies to mitigate barriers to customer participation and to ensure adequate representation from highly impacted communities or vulnerable populations are included in all advisory groups.

The chart below provides an illustration of the activities the EAG will undertake and how their consult

will inform the Company's activities and advisory groups.



Member Recruitment

The Company is committed to obtaining membership that reflects diverse representation of its customer base with emphasis on those who have been marginalized and/or adversely affected by energy generation and delivery.

Membership in the EAG is defined as any interested person who can actively consult on equity concerns related to the strategic planning, resource coordination and management of the Company's clean energy initiatives.

Interested individuals will be invited to complete a **Member Interest Form** that will provide a tool for considering candidates for the EAG.

Meetings

Meetings will be conducted in a virtual setting until the Company resumes standard, in-person, business practices or once gathering in groups larger than 10 is permitted.

Meetings will be facilitated by Avista staff.

Meetings are open to EAG members, related Avista staff and guests by invitation.

Presentations

All members of the EAG will help identify projects and initiatives that should be shared by presentation to the Group.

Presentations will be available to members in advance of the meeting (*3 days as required per WAC 480-100-655 (g)*).

Meeting and Group Activity Archive

Meeting notes will be taken and shared with members. Meeting notes with presentations will also be available on the Company's website.

2021 Meeting Schedule

The chart below includes the topics to be reviewed and discussed at each meeting.

Meeting	Date/Time	Agenda	Objective
Equity Advisory Group Introductory Meeting	2 meeting options: Thursday, May 13 7:30 to 8:30 am and 4:30 to 5:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meet & Greet - Review 2021 participation opportunities 	Informative
Public Participation Introductory Meeting EAG invited to participate	Thursday, May 20 1:00 to 3:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Avista's Portfolio of Clean Energy - Current State - Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) - Department of Health's Highly Impacted Communities - Clean Energy Action and Implementation Plans (CEAP & CEIP) 	Informative
Equity Advisory Group	Wednesday, June 9 5:30-7:30 pm Thursday, June 10 7:30 to 9:30 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Customer Benefit Indicators - Barriers to Public Participation 	Participant Feedback

Public Participation Meeting #2 EAG participation required to participate for education and input	Thursday, June 17 1:00 to 3:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CEAP targets (revised 4.30.21) – Avista's Customer Benefit Indicators methodology and review the list – Renewable Energy Credit (REC) proposed methodology <p>*Breakout groups with EAG members uniquely gathered</p>	Participant Feedback through breakout groups with polling for indicator prioritization
Public Participation Meeting #3 EAG invited to participate for education	Thursday, July 15 9:00 to 11:30 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Customer Benefit Indicators (CBI) and associated resource mix – CBI impact methodology and measurement – Resource details (budget, location, etc.) 	Informative
Equity Advisory Group Meeting #2	Tuesday, July 20 (time to be determined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Review CBI and associated resource mix with methodology and measurement – Discussion 	Obtain EAG consult
Public Participation Meeting #4	Tuesday, August 17 1:00 to 3:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Correlated CBI, Resource Mix and metrics – Cost-Cap Calculations – Miscellaneous (e.g. non-energy impacts, etc.) – Next Steps for CEIP and engagement 	Informative
Public Participation with emphasis on new customer engagement Meeting #5	Wednesday September 1 5:30 to 7:30 pm	Non-Technical Public Outreach. Meeting to educate and inform for those who are interested in the non-technical aspects discussed during the previous meetings. Including an overview and resource break outs	Summary overview of all activity to date
Equity Advisory Group Meeting #3	September timeframe	Discussion and Planning for Group path forward and how Group participates on the collaborative spectrum	Identify the Group's plan for moving forward

Member Compensation

Members who express need will be compensated \$400 for their participation in the EAG 2021 meetings. The stipend is for the attendance at three EAG meetings and one public participation meeting that are scheduled to occur May through September 2021, as previously featured in the 2021 meeting schedule.

For in-person meetings, if they occur reimbursement for travel and transportation expenses will be provided for travel that is beyond 10 miles of the meeting location.

Meeting Norms: Guidance for Group Participation

1. Members are encouraged to actively participate in discussions
2. Each member will be provided time to speak

3. Healthy and civil debate is encouraged
4. Members should be open to new ideas and concepts
5. Members are respectful of differing opinions
6. Collectively the group should strive to align varying options (e.g. identify shared goals for different perspectives)

Decision Model

Should the group discussion result in need for a decision, the decision will be made by consensus.

The Gradients of Agreement will be utilized, combined with collaborative dialogue to gauge the level of support for a proposal to ensure each member has had the opportunity to express ideas and

better understand what is important to each member. The solution should then have broad level of support and will enhance the commitment and success of the resulting decision.

Gradients of Agreement: Better Vocabulary

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Whole-hearted Endorsement	Agreement with a Minor Point of Contention	Support with Reservations	Abstain	More Discussion Needed	Don't Like but Will Support	Serious Disagreement	Veto
"I really like it"	"Not perfect, but it's good enough"	"I can live with it."	"This issue does not affect me."	"I don't understand the issues well enough yet."	"It's not great but I don't want to hold up the group"	"I am not on board with this – don't count on me."	"I block this proposal."

If all the responses from the group members are 1, 2, 3, or 4, consensus is achieved, and the group can proceed.

If most of the group answers 1 to 4, and one or more member answers 5, then the initiative will move forward with a minority report written by those members who voted 5.

If less than 60% of the EAG votes 1 to 4, the initiative will go back to the Group for further consideration.

Roles and Responsibilities

EAG Members

This is an active advisory group that will consist of participants from community-based, public health, government and social service organizations along with individuals with relevant experiences who will provide a consultation to assure the needs of their particular area or interests are considered as it relates to potential benefits or detriments that a clean energy future may bring to their community.

The EAG is expected to provide a voice for marginalized customers and will assist in the development of the inputs to be considered for future energy resource planning processes.

EAG responsibilities in the first year:

1. Provide consult to ensure equity considerations are expressed in public participation meetings and during various consult activities
2. Attend EAG meetings
3. Attend public participation meetings, as interested and available

Public Comments

Being a member of Avista's EAG does not limit participants or groups from commenting on CEIP filings before the commission.

Company Representatives

The company's lead staff will facilitate regularly occurring meetings with an internal group of Avista representatives who will be updated on the EAG's activities and progress. This group will provide oversight to assure the group's activities are aligned with other company activities and initiatives, resources are leveraged and the recommendations of the EAG are distributed to the related advisory group or company program or project.

Representation for the company's internal group includes:

- Executive Sponsor: Latisha Hill
- Lead Staff: Ana Matthews and Renee Coelho
- Avista Experts:
 - Rates & Regulatory: Shawn Bonfield, Amanda Ghering and Jaime Majure
 - IRP Manager: James Gall
 - CEIP Manager: Annette Brandon
 - Avista's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Strategy: Kristine Meyer
 - General Consult: Meghan Pinch
 - Communication: Anne Gannon
- Related company initiatives:
 - Biennial Conservation Plan: Ryan Finesilver
 - Affordability: Nicole Hydzyk & Joy Fryer
 - Solar: Joy Fryer
 - Transportation Electrification: Rendall Farley

Lead Staff Responsibilities

1. Lead EAG Meetings
2. Coordinate all meeting support activity (i.e. schedule meetings, provide agenda and meeting materials to members)
3. Document meeting notes and action items
4. Send out meeting notes, action items and ensure follow-up of action items
5. Serve as company liaison for all EAG activities

Resources

For the development of this document the following resources were used:

1. Avista's Economic Vitality Charter, dated 11/20/2020
2. Spokane Regional Emergency and Disaster Healthcare Coalition: Core Member Advisory Group Charter, dated: 4/1//2019
3. Justice in 100 Metrics: Tools for Measuring Energy Equity
4. WUTC Draft Area Metrics and Examples
5. Spokane City's Sustainability Action Subcommittee: Overview

Appendix B

Clean Energy

Implementation Plan Public

Participation Plan

EAG Public Participation Barriers and CBI

Discussion Pre-Work

EAG Pre-Work for June 9/10 2021 EAG Meeting

1. Identifying, prioritizing, and selecting indicators (6/9 and 6/10)
 - How could the transition to clean energy benefit customers? How could the transition to clean energy unintentionally harm customers?
 - Through **availability?**
 - Through **access to clean energy?**
 - Through **changes to the environment?**
 - Through **energy security, reliability, and resilience?**
 - Through **community and economic development?**
 - What are our suggested prioritized indicators?
2. Developing an action plan (6/17)
 - How are we doing in terms of each selected indicator?
 - What's the story behind the indicator? (Barriers, Facilitators, Root Causes, etc.)
 - Considering the story behind the indicator, what could work to change the indicator (e.g., considering the story behind power outages, what would work to improve power outages)?
 - Of what could work, what would we prioritize? (What is feasible? Equitable? Actionable? Impactful?)
 - What will we do? (<-final prioritized action plan)
3. Developing performance measures/metrics
 - How will we measure what we will do?
 - How will we measure how well we did it?
 - How will we measure to what extent anyone is better off?
 - What are our headline performance measures?

Appendix C

Clean Energy

Implementation Plan

Public Participation Plan

EAG Representation

Equity Advisory Group Representation:

The following communities and organizations are active participants amongst Avista's EAG.

Spokane Tribe	Spokane Clean Air	City of Airway Heights	Special Education Services
Rural Resources – Colville	Spokane Veterans Services	Salem Arms - Affordable Housing	LGBTQ
Spokane Asian Pacific Islanders	Martin Luther King Center	CAC Whitman County Low-Income	Spokane Neighborhood Action Partners
Takesa Village - Mobile Home Partners	Jacobs -Transportation	A.L.I.C.E	Othello School District
West Central Neighborhood	Department of Ecology	Environmental Renewable	

Appendix D

Clean Energy Implementation Plan

EAG Member Interest Form

Avista Equity Advisory Group Interest Form

Introduction:

Washington’s Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) passed by legislature in 2019 requires utilities to ensure an equitable distribution of energy benefits and a reduction of burdens on vulnerable populations and highly impacted communities.

There are many societal issues that run parallel with the desire to convert to a clean energy future. Based on your unique experience, please review the information below to indicate your interest in advising Avista in these matters.

Advisory Group Member Qualifications

- Knowledge, skills, and experience (lived and professional) to effectively represent your respective community/population/group.
- Capacity and willingness to serve as the conduit or intermediary between the Equity Advisory Group (EAG) and the entity you represent.
- Availability to attend regularly scheduled meetings

The following information collected will be used to understand your interest, ability and capacity to participate in the Equity Advisory Group as well as to track the experiences and communities/sectors that are represented.

Please submit completed forms by email to ana.matthews@avistacorp.com or by mail to:
Avista
MSC-68
1411 E. Mission, Spokane WA 99202

Member Information

Full Name: _____ Date: _____
Last First M.I.

Address: _____
Street Address Apartment/Unit #

_____ **City State ZIP Code**

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Preferred method for communication (e.g. email, phone, etc.):

Interest

In what way would you like to engage with the EAG?

- Actively participate as an EAG member
- Receive information/updates on the activities of the EAG
- Both actively participate and receive information/updates
- Other: _____

What are your interests in joining Avista's Equity Advisory Group?

Are you interested in joining Avista's Energy Equity Advisory Group as an: (check all that apply and provide)?

- Individual community member, leader, or worker who is interested in Washington State's Clean Energy Transformation law.

Please describe: _____

- Partner from an organization, business, or union that serves communities or workers.

Please describe: _____

- Partner from an industry, sector, or governmental agency.

Please describe: _____

- Other with description: _____

How will participating in the Group benefit your community/sector/organization?

Experience

Please provide information about your background or experience that may inform ways to make improvements to the following areas: (check all that apply)

- Employment

Please describe: _____

- Housing
Please describe: _____
- Transportation
Please describe: _____
- Food insecurity
Please describe: _____
- Health care
Please describe: _____
- Language barriers
Please describe: _____
- Other:
Description: _____

Please identify community affiliations in which you have personal and/or professional experience. We understand there may be intersecting personal identities and/or professions. Select all that apply.

- Community member, advocate and representative for people in congregate settings: people experiencing homelessness, people who are detained/incarcerated, etc.
- Community member, leader representing immigrant and refugee communities
- Community member, leader representing individuals with disabilities
- Community member, leader representing rural and frontier communities
- Community member, leader representing the LGBTQIA+ community
- Community member, leader representing the African American/Black communities
- Community member, leader representing the Asian American communities
- Community member, leader representing the Latinx communities
- Community member, leader representing the Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander communities
- Community member, leader representing American Indian/Alaska Native communities
Please note tribe: _____
- Community based organization, please note which organization: _____
- Community-led groups or coalition, please note group: _____
- Faith based community
- Local Health Jurisdiction
- Academic partner, please note which institution: _____
- Government Agency, please indicate: _____
- Other _____

Compensation

We value and honor your time, and compensation may be available to you or your organization to cover the cost of your participation at Equity Advisory Group meetings.

Would you like to be compensated for your time?

- Yes

- No
- Other comment(s): _____

Participation

The 2021 Equity Advisory Group meetings will be held on:

- May 13 at 7:30 to 8:30 am and 4:30 to 5:30 pm (please choose either meeting time on this date)
- June 17 at 1:00 to 3:30 pm
- July 20 and in September at times to be determined
- You may choose to attend public meetings for learning and input regarding the company's Clean Energy Implementation Plan on May 20, July 15, August 17 and September 1

Are you able to attend the meetings?

- Yes, I can attend all meetings.
- No, I can only attend the following meetings: _____
- No. I am not able to attend but I would like to receive company updates and materials.

It is anticipated that Equity Advisory Group activity will occur virtually (e.g. through Microsoft Teams and Zoom) this year.

How can we best support you with virtual participation? Please check all that apply:

- Language interpretation
- Disability accommodations
- Technology assistance/accessibility (i.e. virtual platform training, phone conference, video)
- Other

Please describe: _____

Other Comments

Please use this space to provide any additional comments you would like to share here:

Signature: _____ Date: _____