



**Equity Advisory Group –
Equity Lens Session**

Meeting Date:	07-19-2024
Time:	07:30 am
Location:	Zoom Meeting

Attendees:

<i>Facilitator</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>EAG Member</i>	<i>Member Organizations</i>
Amber Lenhart	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clyde Abrahamson	Spokane Indian Housing Authority
Avista Team Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	Margee Chambers	Spokane Clean Air
Tamara Bradley	<input type="checkbox"/>	Connie Kliever	NEWESD101
Dan Blazquez	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clair Trapp	Rural Resources
Kelly Dengel	<input type="checkbox"/>	David Tietz	Salem Arms Community Housing
Annette Brandon	<input type="checkbox"/>	KJ January	Spectrum
Christine Tasche	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	William von Bracht	Othello, school English as 2nd language
Amanda Ghering	<input type="checkbox"/>	Michele Bennington	Community member at large
Ariana Barrey	<input type="checkbox"/>	Brook Beeler	Department of Ecology Eastern Region
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jupiter McGee	Sunrise Spokane Affiliation (youth led) (Facebook)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vanessa Strong	Spokane Public Library
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tami Dillion	Skills'kin
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alexsander Swenson	Youth - Girl Scout
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cindy Kimmet	Takesa Village
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Carmen Groom	SNAP
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rowena Pineda	Reimagine Spokane & Asian Pacific Islander Coalition
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jean Kindem	Aging & Long-Term Care of Eastern Washington
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Karen Boone	Red Cross
		Guests	

Agenda

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EAG Equity Lens Session Meeting Notes

Special Note: This meeting was impacted by the Global CrowdStrike issue impacting Windows computers. Many participants were not able to log on.

I. Welcome & Introductions

Overview of Meeting: Rules and Intent

II. Partner Share

- Aging and Long-Term Care is looking for board member.
- Providence is having a hiring fair.

III. Agenda Item 1: CBI Discussion

- **Slide 11:** What are some ways clean energy could benefit people, especially people in Named Communities?
 - **Participant:** Consider what level of jobs are available: Are there programs that can support kids coming out of High School into training or certification programs? What are jobs that can be done at a high school level that can be created by Avista. CTE (Career and Technical Education). What are specific and technical training programs that would be needed.
 - **Avista:** Avista has an Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity group that provides specific technical training opportunities and access to programs for named communities.
 - **Avista:** Avista does offer training programs to high school students. Current 6 students are going through the program. There is a desire to expand the program to Othello.
 - **Avista:** Will do more work to see how they can propose a CBI.
- **Slide 11:** Thinking about the ways clean energy can benefit or unintentionally harm communities, what things could Avista measure or observe?
 - **Participant:** Economic incentives are always helpful. Finding ways to get information to customers directly. Making it as simple as possible would be better.
 - **Participant:** Putting information in people's bills.
 - **Participant:** Incorporate this kind of functionality into Avista App: "Rebate Tab", "Savings Tab". "People live on their phones now." "Apps are really good to affect people's behavior"
- **Slide 12:** What are some ways that people might be affected by clean energy?
 - **Avista:** Avista is discussing breaking down: where Avista is serving
 - **Avista:** Avista is discussing resiliency in terms of accumulative impact of outages. Avista could potentially track this as a metric.
 - **Avista:** Avista has the data to do this, but it needs to be established whether this is an important metric.
 - **Participants:** No concerns were expressed.
- **Slide 13:** What are some ways that people might be affected by clean energy?
 - **Avista:** Jobs were a topic that kept coming up amongst participants during the June session. This is a case were Avista does not have the data but could purchase software that would allow them to track this data. This software, although, is very expensive.

- **Avista:** Further review indicates that participants care more about any job, including all utility jobs, and not just “Clean Energy”.
- **Avista ask to participants:** Are there any other questions related to this jobs issue?
 - **Participants:** The diversity piece is important, and where jobs are being created “in the right places” (named communities, diverse communities)
 - **Avista:** Avista could do more work to see what kind of jobs are being offered in named communities, like craft jobs.
 - **Avista:** There is a special needs group in Spokane that Avista works with. Avista employs people with special needs and disabilities in a unique program at the Spokane Mission facilities.
 - **Avista:** Avista will commit to looking more into this jobs opportunity.
- **Slide 14:** What are some ways that people might be affected by clean energy?
 - **Avista:** Tracking school and educational visits would potentially be added to an existing metric.
 - **Participant:** Does Avista offer onsite visits?
 - **Avista:** No, Generally, if students are visiting, they are visiting a generation site. Avista also offers career fairs, Avista is visiting students and students are not visiting Avista.
 - **Participant:** If Avista goes to schools, Avista should make it fun.
- **Slide 15:**
 - **Avista:** There are some 70 metrics that are used by Avista and so after review, Avista would like to remove one regarding Green House Gases.
- **Slide 16:**
 - **Avista:** Avista would like to focus on Avista Green House Gases and dropping Regional Green House Gases
 - **Participant:** No questions from participants.

IV. Wrap Up

- Next EAG meetings will be held August 21st and August 23rd of 2025.

V. Additional Resources

<i>Resource Link</i>	<i>Description</i>
Washington's Clean Energy Future	Avista page for CETA related activities
Clean Energy Transformation Act	Clean Energy Transformation Act - Washington State Department of Commerce
Chapter 19.405 RCW	Laws and Regulations: Revised Code of Washington Investor-owned utilities
Chapter 480-100 WAC	Laws and Regulations: Washington Administrative Code Investor-owned utilities
WA Energy Strategy	Washington State Energy Strategy
CETA Overview	CETA overview and interim assessment