



Equity Advisory Group

Moving Forward

Agenda

1. Ice Breaker
2. EAG Overview
3. EAG Staff Support
4. Group Composition
5. Group & Charter Development
 - Review Rules of Engagement
 - Meeting Construct
 - Input review process (e.g., criteria, recommendations)

Ice Breaker

Equity Advisory Group

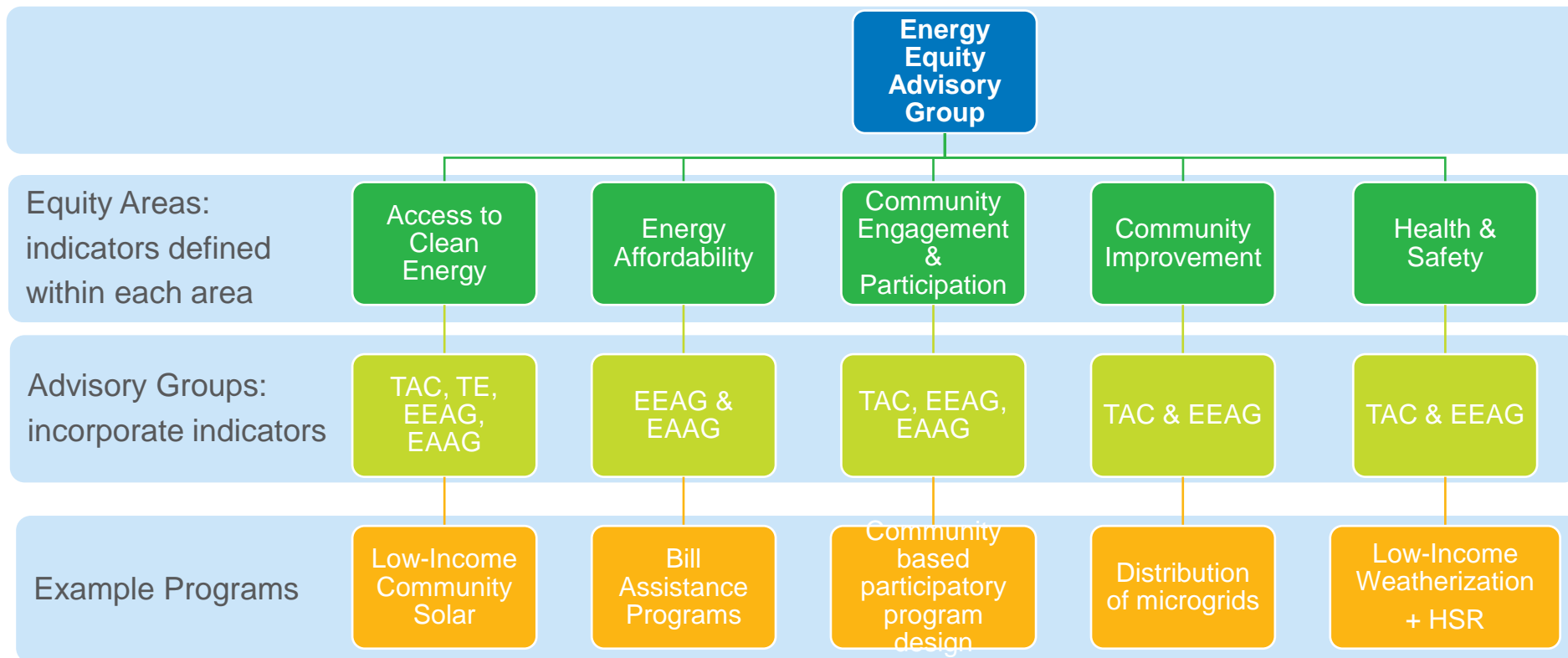
Requirement: **WAC 480-100-655 Public participation in a clean energy implementation plan (CEIP).**

WAC 480-100-655 (2) – A utility must maintain and engage an external equity advisory group of stakeholders to advise the utility on equity issues including, but not limited to, vulnerable populations designation, equity indicator development, data support and development, and recommended approaches for the utility’s compliance within WAC 480-100-610 (4)(C)(i).

- *Participation to include environmental justice and public health advocates, tribes, and representatives from highly impacted communities and vulnerable populations in addition to other relevant groups.*

Equity Advisory Group

Intent: to advise the utility on equity issues including, but not limited to, vulnerable population designation, equity indicator development, data support and development, and recommended approaches for the utility's compliance with WAC 480-100-610 (4)(c)(i).



Avista Advisory Groups

Acronym	Advisory Group Purpose
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee – advisory group to the Integrated Resource Plan process (IRP) – the 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

EAG Staff Support

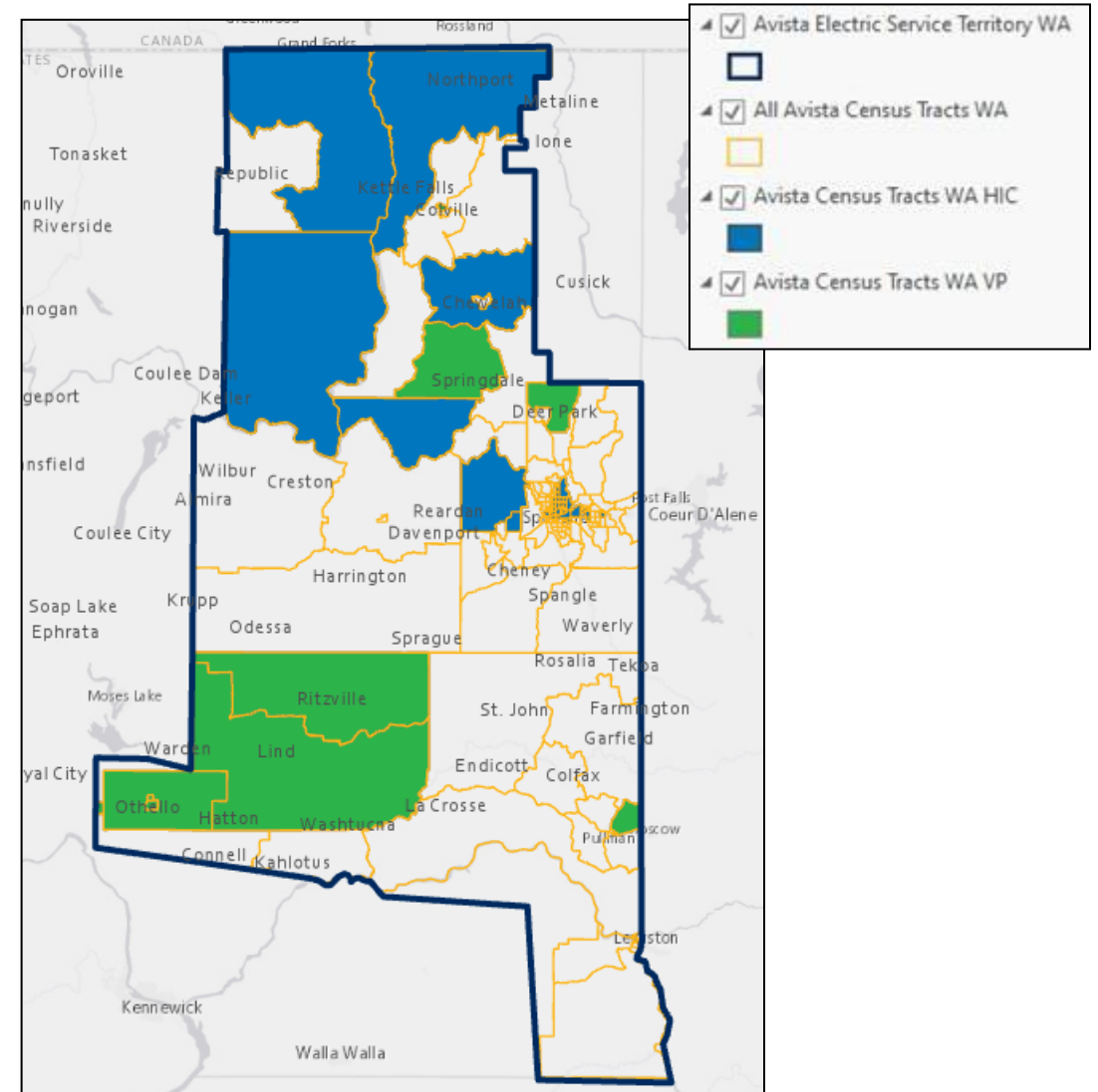
- Facilitator (Amber Lenhart)
 - Independent contractor
 - Lead discussions
 - Coordinate all meeting support activity
- Avista Staff (Renee Coelho and Ana Matthews)
 - Coordinate all meeting support activity
 - Process member compensation
 - EAG activity reporting to Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission (WUTC)
 - Member recruitment and orientation

EAG Members, Summer 2021

Area Represented	First Name	Last Name	Organization/Affiliation	Title
Tribe and clean energy	Clyde	Abrahamson	Spokane Tribe Housing Authority	Development Manager
Clean Air	Margee	Chambers	Spokane Clean Air	Rule Writer & SIP Planner
Education/Disabled, senior	Connie	Kliwer	NEWESD101	Director, Center for Special Education Services
Colville, low income	Clair	Trapp	Rural Resources	Energy Intake Specialist
Veterans	Joe/Eliso	Dumlao	Spokane Vet Center	Veterans Outreach Program Specialist
Affordable Housing	David	Tietz	Salem Arms	Executive Director
LGBTQ	KJ	January	Spectrum	Director of Advocacy and Engagement
Marginalized communities, social and environmental justice	Ryann	Louie	Reimagine Spokane & Asian Pacific Islander Coalition	Co-Chair Asian Pacific Islander Coalition, Founder of Reimagine Spokane
Community - Spokane	Adell	Whitehead	Martin Luther King Center	Family Services Support Manager
Rural Community - Whitman County and business owner	Jessie	Twigg-Harris	Community Member at Large (rural community)	Small Business Owner
Lived Experience, low income BIPOC	Deaneal	McKnight	CAC Whitman	Outreach
Energy and rental assistance	Shauna	Meharry	SNAP	Intake Specialist
Mobile Home park, low income	DeAnna	Knope	Takesa Village	Resident
Business, transportation, rural communities	Larry	Mattson	Jacobs	Client Account Manager
Individuals with disabilities, younger generation, ALICE	Gretchen	Chomas	Community Member at Large	Neighborhood Council Member
Othello, school, English as 2nd language	William	vonBracht	Hiawatha Elementary School	Principal
West Central Spokane, Environment and Marginalized populations	Michele	Bennington	Community Member at Large	Volunteer at Our Place
Environment	Maggie	Gates	Community Outreach	Lands Council
Environment	Amanda	Parrish	Executive Director	Lands Council
Ecology/Environment	Brook	Beeler	Regional Director	Department of Ecology
Environment/Renewable	Jordan	McGee	Community Member and Organizer	Sunrise Spokane affiliation

Named Communities: Highly Impacted Communities and Vulnerable Populations

- Highly Impacted Communities
- Vulnerable Populations
- Total represents 47 areas or 32% of Avista's Washington service area
- EAG identified additional characteristics for vulnerable populations considered as part of Customer Benefit Indicators (CBI)



EAG-Identified Populations	Undocumented individuals	Non-English speakers (e.g., Spanish, Marshallese, Russian/Slavic)	Low-Income	Certain neighborhoods
Migrant workers	People who don't read English	LGBTQIA2S+	Eastside of Spokane	American Indian and Alaska Native (on/off reservation)
Monolingual and indigenous language speakers	People with disabilities	Rural	BIPOC	Older homes with older infrastructure
People who fall between the cracks	Neighboring communities and states	Houseless populations	Youngest generation (high school, college)	Fossil fuel industry workers
Pops outside of Avista's service territory affected by fossil fuel	Tenants (renters)	Youth (some help families navigate resources)	Religious and spiritual people	

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Targeted Recruitment

- Youth (college and high school)
- Senior
- Airway Heights
- Churches – Slavic and Latina communities
- New Hope Resource Center
- Bengali (Sasha) and Burmese communities
- Feast World Kitchen (feastworldkitchen.org)

~Who is missing?~

Public Participation

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.

Future Topics for EAG Discussion: Equity Lens Sessions

- Non-Energy Burdens
- Energy Assistance Report to Commerce
- Electric Vehicles Community & Low-Income Initiative
- Bill Assistance
- Education & Outreach
- Automated Metering Infrastructure -*aka Smart Meters*
- Wildfire
- Wellpinit Microgrid Pilot
- CETA Budget/Connected Communities
- Focus Areas aka Named Communities Energy Efficiency Program Development

EAG Members Responsibilities

- 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:
 - Provide consult to ensure equity considerations are expressed in public participation meetings and during various consult activities
 - *Attend EAG meetings*
 - *Attend public participation meetings, as interested and available*

Meeting Norms: Guidance for Group Participation

- Members are encouraged to actively participate in discussions
- Each member will be provided time to speak
- Healthy and civil debate is encouraged
- Members should be open to new ideas and concepts
- Members are respectful of differing opinions
- Collectively the group should strive to align varying options (e.g., identify shared goals for different perspectives)

Meeting Construct

- Open or Closed
- Recordings
- Notes, must be publicly available
- Guests
- Frequency

Decision Model

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.

Discussion: Framework for Equity Lens Session

- How should presenters prepare? What information should they bring?
- How should they consider EAG feedback?
- How do they update what they did with the EAG feedback?
- What is the matrix EAG uses for discussing Avista programs and initiatives?

Moving Forward as Group

- One more meeting with other members next Wednesday
- Feedback compiled for final draft of Charter
- Review at end of September/first of October meeting(s)

What to Expect Next

Two more virtual public meetings about the inaugural Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP)

1. Avista Listening Session: Thursday, September 2nd 9:00am

Opportunity for comments to be received in a public forum about the draft CEIP.

2. Non-Technical Public Meeting: Wednesday, September 9th
5:30pm

Summary of what occurred during the CEIP process and proposed future actions.

~Thank you~