



# Equity Advisory Group

*Customer Barriers to Participation*

July 20<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

# Introductions & Agenda

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# Guest Introductions

- Name
  - Pronouns
- Organization
- Interest in attending



# Today's Meeting

## Equity Lens Session July 2022



Review our Clean Energy Implementation Plan Timeline and Where We Are Today.



Review the Conditions Agreed to by Avista and the Commission to Move the Clean Energy Implementation Plan Forward.

INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT				
INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
<b>Public Participation Goal:</b>	<b>Public Participation Goal:</b>	<b>Public Participation Goal:</b>	<b>Public Participation Goal:</b>	<b>Public Participation Goal:</b>
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.

# Rules for Engagement



- 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
- Respectful of differing opinions
- Collectively the group should strive to align varying options (e.g., identify shared goals for different perspectives)



# EAG

*Member Spotlight*

July 20<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

# Clyde Abrahamson (he/him)

## *Member Spotlight*

### **Where do you work and what is your title?**

Spokane Indian Housing Authority. Previously, I was the Development Manager now I am the Special Projects Manager. That basically means that I will be focusing my time on infrastructure projects, such as solar, water, sewer and proposed roads along with site development.

### **Where do you live?**

I currently live in Wellpinit, WA in the heart of the Spokane Indian Reservation. Previously, I lived in the Spokane Valley for approximately 10 years and in the City of Deer Park WA for another 10 years as well.





# Clyde Abrahamson (he/him)

## Member Spotlight



### In your own words, how do you define equity?

I try to see Equity as an equalizing of a person's surplus so that they may offset the needs others. The “surplus” for one person may be different than the “surplus” of others, it could be money or supplies which may offset the deficiency of those who lack the circumstances of acquiring their need. So that the person with much does not have too much but the person with little does not have too little so that it does not cause a hardship for the rich to offset the poor.

This thought of equality is a difficult balance in a capitalistic society that we are all trained to live within.

### Tell us why equity is important to you?

Equality is important because we see so much *inequality* at every level of human government, from the basic family structure, to the schools, churches, local and national governmental structures.





# Clyde Abrahamson (he/him)

## *Member Spotlight*

**If you had to walk into a room with one song that was consistently playing, what would that song be?**

I was always a fan of Stevie Ray Vaughan, he has a remake of “Little Wing” guitar and drums - no singing - originally by Jimmy Hendrix but I have to say Stevie Ray played it better. This song can play from 8 to 15 minutes, and I never get tired of listening to it. Its ironic that both musicians are no longer living.





# Clean Energy Implementation Plan Timeline

*How did we get here?*

July 20<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

# Public Participation Groups and Process

**Equity is at the core of the transition to clean energy.** Company must ensure the “equitable distribution of energy and nonenergy benefits and reductions of burdens to vulnerable populations and highly impacted communities” in development of CEIP.

## Benefits/Barriers “Equity Areas”

- Benefits of Clean Energy
- Ensure benefits are equitably distributed
- Barriers to participation

## Named Communities

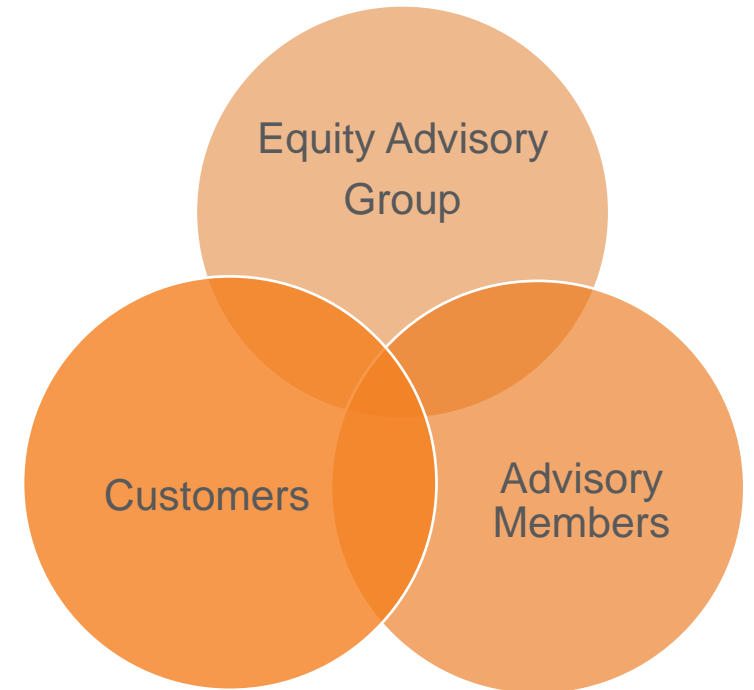
- Who is likely to be most impacted?
- Highly Impacted Communities
- Vulnerable Populations

## Customer Benefit Indicators

- Ensure customers are receiving benefits of clean energy
- Measurements for accountability

## Specific Actions – What specific steps will Avista take?

- Clean Energy resources – ensure CBIs are attributes mix of renewable, energy efficiency, demand response



# Plan approved by WUTC June 16, 2022





# Clean Energy Implementation Plan

*Conditions*

July 20<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

# Conditions

Discussions held March through May with interested stakeholders.

## 38 conditions agreed to by Avista

- Interim & Specific Targets
- Baseline Conditions
- Specific Actions
- Demand Response
- Distributed Energy Resources & Distribution Planning
- Energy Efficiency
- Customer Benefit Indicators
- Public Participation & Equity Advisory Group
- Incremental Cost of Compliance
- Integrated Resource Plan
- Cost Recovery



# Condition #10

By December 1, 2022, in collaboration with its Equity Advisory Group and Energy Assistance Advisory Group and per WAC 480-100-640(5)(a) and (c), Avista agrees to identify at least one specific action that will serve a designated subset of Named Communities, to be funded by the Named Communities Investment Fund, and to identify and track all CBIs relevant to this specific action. The location identified for the specific action will be at the granularity of the designated Named Communities subset.

# Named Community Investment Fund

This Specific Action is dedicated to the equitable distribution of energy and non-energy benefits and reduction in burdens to Named Communities

The Company will limit funding to 1% or approximately \$5.0 million annually.

## 40% or up to \$2.0 million

- Supplement and support energy efficiency efforts targeted to Named Communities

## 20% or up to \$1.0 million

- Investments in distribution resiliency efforts for Named Communities

## 20% or up to \$1.0 million

- Incentives or grants to develop projects by local customers or third parties

## 10% or up to \$500,000

- Used for newly developed targeted outreach and engagement efforts specifically for Named Communities.

## 10% or up to \$500,000

- Used for other projects, programs or initiatives specific to Named Communities



# Energy Efficiency Named Community Investment Fund



Avista will allocate \$2 million annually to energy efficiency projects within named communities



Plan identifies five customer segments including residential, multifamily, mobile homes, businesses and elected projects



The goal of the fund is to provide an equitable level of energy efficiency benefits (opportunities) to customers

Community  
Identified  
Projects

Renters &  
Multifamily

Single Family

Mobile  
Homes

Community  
Organizations

# Community Identified Projects

Community  
Identified  
Projects



Avista to fund community projects identified by the Equity Advisory Group



**Funding:** \$500,000 per year



**Eligibility:** Available to customers (residential and business) within Named Communities



**Selection:** Criteria for prioritizing projects to be determined by the EAG



**Support:** EAG facilitator, Avista staff from Customer Engagement and Energy Efficiency Department



**Restrictions:** Projects must be for either 1) Energy Efficiency related projects or 2) health, safety or repairs that enables an energy efficiency project to occur

## Condition #23

Avista must formally present and discuss any Joint Advocate or other stakeholder proposed Customer Benefit Indicators that was not included in the Company's filed Clean Energy Implementation Plan and the final Commission approved Clean Energy Implementation Plan with conditions, to its advisory groups, customers, and other interested stakeholders at a Clean Energy Implementation Plan Public Participation Meeting(s) and at a separate joint advisory group meeting(s), to include the Energy Efficiency Advisory Group, Energy Assistance Advisory Group, and Equity Advisory Group. Following these discussions and careful consideration of the feedback received, Avista will propose an updated set of Customer Benefit Indicators and associated metrics in its 2023 Biennial Clean Energy Implementation Plan Update.

# Customer Benefit Indicators

**Customer Benefit Indicator (CBI)** – is an attribute, either quantitative or qualitative of a resource or related distribution investment associated with customer benefits

## Affordability

Participation in Company Programs  
Number of Households with high energy burden (>6%)

## Environmental

Greenhouse Gas Emissions  
Outdoor Air Quality

## Energy Resiliency & Security

Energy Availability  
Generation Location  
Residential Arrearages & Disconnections for Nonpayment

## Access

Outreach and Communication  
Transportation Electrification

## Public Health

Employee diversity  
Supplier diversity  
Indoor Air Quality

## Community Development

Named Community Clean Energy  
Investment in Named Communities

CBIs are measurement tools for evaluating progress towards ensuring customers are benefitting from the transition to clean energy.

Areas considered:

- ✓ Affordability
- ✓ Access to Clean Energy
- ✓ Environment and Public Health
- ✓ Energy Security and Resiliency
- ✓ Community and Economic Development



# Condition #24

Avista must engage collaboratively with its advisory groups (Equity Advisory Group, Energy Efficiency Advisory Group, Energy Assistance Advisory Group) to create a metric for Indoor Air Quality and submit formal metric for evaluation no later than in its 2023 Biennial Clean Energy Implementation Plan Update.

## Condition #38

Avista must choose at least two of its current Customer Benefit Indicators which it will track for at least five subsets of named communities, at a granularity to be determined by agreement with Staff, stakeholders, and the Company's Equity Advisory Group. Avista will incorporate relevant updates in its 2023 Biennial Clean Energy Implementation Plan update.

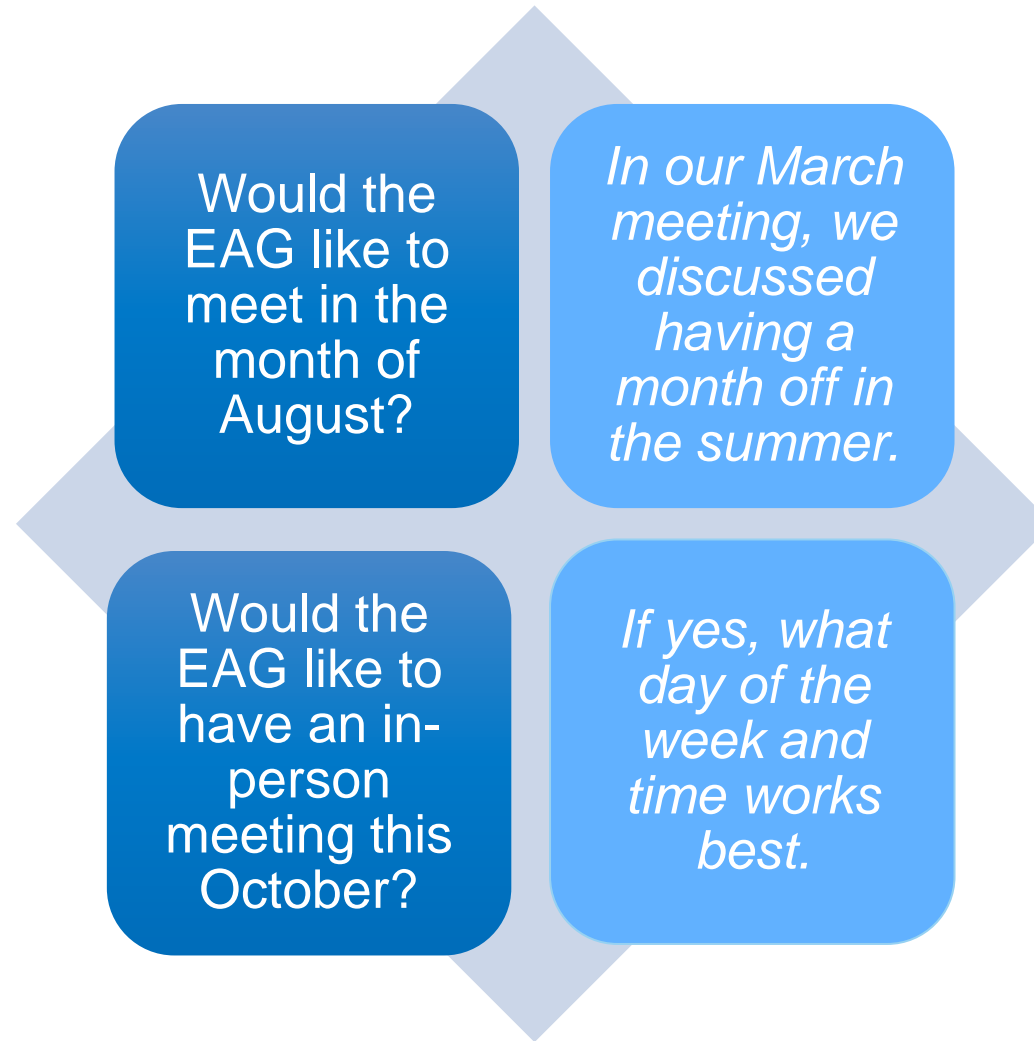


# EAG

*Schedule*

July 20<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

# EAG Schedule



# Next Meeting | Support Team

Evening:  
Wednesday, August  
17th @ 4:30 to 6:00  
pm

**Wed. 17 August**

**Fri. 19 August**

Morning: Friday,  
August 19th @ 7:30  
to 9:00 am

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**Thank you**