



Equity Advisory Group

*Named Communities Investment Fund
Spokane Tribe Energy Partnership
Public Participation*

March 15th & 17th, 2023

Introductions & Agenda

Topic	Topic Owner
Welcome & Introductions	Amber
Overview of the Meeting: rules and intent	Amber
Member Spotlight	Amber
Named Communities Investment Fund	Ana
Spokane Tribe Energy Partnership	Meghan
Public Participation	Tamara
Next Meeting/Close	Amber

Guest Introductions

- Name
 - Pronouns
- Organization



Today's Meeting

Equity Lens Session February 2023



Review NCIF project ranking & discussion



Inform on partnership efforts between Avista & Spokane Tribe



Update & gather feedback on Avista's public participation strategy

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.

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)

Alexandra (Alex) Swenson (she/her)

Member Spotlight

Where do you work and what is your title?

I am a sophomore(grade 10) at Cheney High School. I am also involved in Girl Scouts, marching band, and choir.

Where do you live?

I live in the Cheney area, about forty-five minutes out of town.

In your own words, how do you define equity?

Equity is when everyone has access to the resources that they need to be successful in life. It's a leveling of the playing field where everyone has the same opportunities.



Alexsandra (Alex) Swenson (she/her)

Member Spotlight

Tell us why equity is important to you.

Equity is important to me because it creates spaces where everyone can live their best life. I care deeply about the well-being and people's quality of life and equity is a huge part of that.

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

Either Wildest Dreams or Lover by Taylor Swift. I know these are both cheesy songs, but cheesy things are what make life fun. Also, they are both bright songs and if I was in a room playing a sad song - I would be sad all the time.



Named Communities Investment Fund

- Project Prioritization -

Named Community Investment Fund



- Considering initiatives for implementation
- Regular progress updates

EAG Results

Named Communities Invest Funds Prioritization

Rank	Initiatives
1*	Focus efforts on improving energy efficiency (and EE awareness/education) for schools, community centers, and other places where Named Communities spend time
1*	Focus efforts on improving energy efficiency for Spokane Tribe partners
2	Improve energy efficiency in multi-family and mobile home communities
3	Increase tree canopy and shade in Named Communities (consider tradeoffs with solar)
3	Increase access to energy efficient products and appliances for Named Communities
4	Increase awareness of and engagement in energy efficiency programs while also meeting whole-house needs through community-based partnerships and referrals to services
5*	Set aside funds to match for energy efficiency grant applications for community organizations and tribal partners (could have higher feasibility)
6	Focus efforts on improving energy efficiency for community members without stable housing (consider including with other initiatives)

EAG Results

Named Communities Invest Funds Prioritization

Rank	Initiatives
1*	Focus efforts on improving energy efficiency (and EE awareness/education) for schools, community centers, and other places where Named Communities spend time

- Community Center located in Named Community
- Leverage state, municipality and utility funds
- Project: solar with battery storage systems, energy efficiency, and EV charging to enhance grid resiliency and backup power for community building to support critical needs
 - Improvements to roof and HVAC system
 - Energy Efficiency & LED lighting building upgrades
 - Battery Backup for the building
 - Model can be replicated in other communities in Eastern Washington
- Grant to be submitted at the end of March
- Gathering stakeholder commitments



**Spokane Tribe
of Indians**

Spokane Tribe Energy Partnership

- Awareness & Update -

Clean Energy Fund Grid Modernization Grant Award Overview



Awarded project: Financial support to design and engineer a clean and resilient energy storage project in partnership with the Spokane Tribe. The project will support increased energy resilience and energy sovereignty. Funding does not include construction of project.

Project Funding: \$480,000 in total (Avista to provide \$240,000 in-kind match to \$240,000 in funding from Department of Commerce).



Grid Modernization grants will support utilities across the state in building and integrating new technologies that support their clean energy transition plans.

Project Background

Cayuse Mountain Fire, 2016



- Tribal Admin building shut down for a week
- Local responders hampered by loss of power, water, inability to fuel trucks
- 18,000 timber acres lost
- 14 homes lost

ENVIRONMENT | NATIONAL

Spokane Tribe hit hard as blaze destroys homes on reservation

f t in t e

Thursday, August 25, 2016



The Cayuse Mountain Fire, or the Cayuse Fire, has struck the Spokane Reservation in Washington. Photo by The Rawhide Press

The [Spokane Tribe](#) is seeing support from Indian Country as a fire continues to batter the reservation in Washington.

The [Cayuse Mountain Fire](#) has burned more than 27 square miles of the reservation, the Associated Press reported. At least 13 homes have been destroyed.

"The devastating fire jumped the Spokane River from Lincoln County onto the Spokane reservation in three separate locations," spokesperson Jamie Sijohn told the AP.

Fire crews from the [Colville Tribes](#) and the [Kalispel Tribe](#), both based in Washington, have been helping the Spokane Tribe fight the blaze, Northwest Public Radio reported. The [Bureau of Indian Affairs](#) and the state have sent firefighters too.

"Our sister tribes know... I think they have the same type of deep connection with their land and their people" Maria Tanslet, the

Clean Energy Fund IV – Natural Hazard Resiliency & Energy

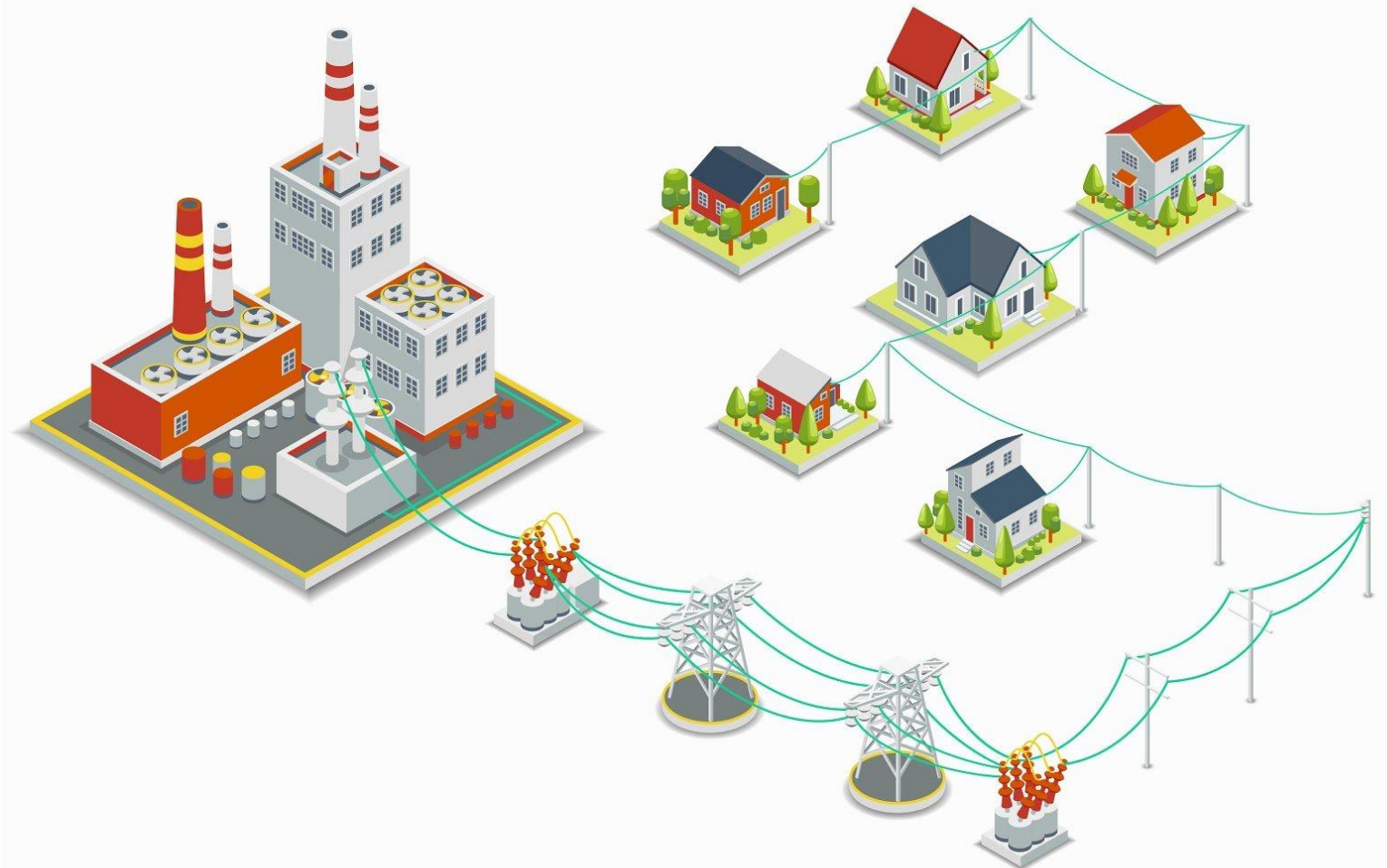
Sovereignty

Traditional Grid



Trends challenging the Grid:

- Aging Infrastructure
- Increased variable generation and load mix
- Increasing risk from wildfires, big storm events and other natural disasters
- Vulnerability to outages in Wellpinit and surrounding areas due to lack of redundancy
- CETA



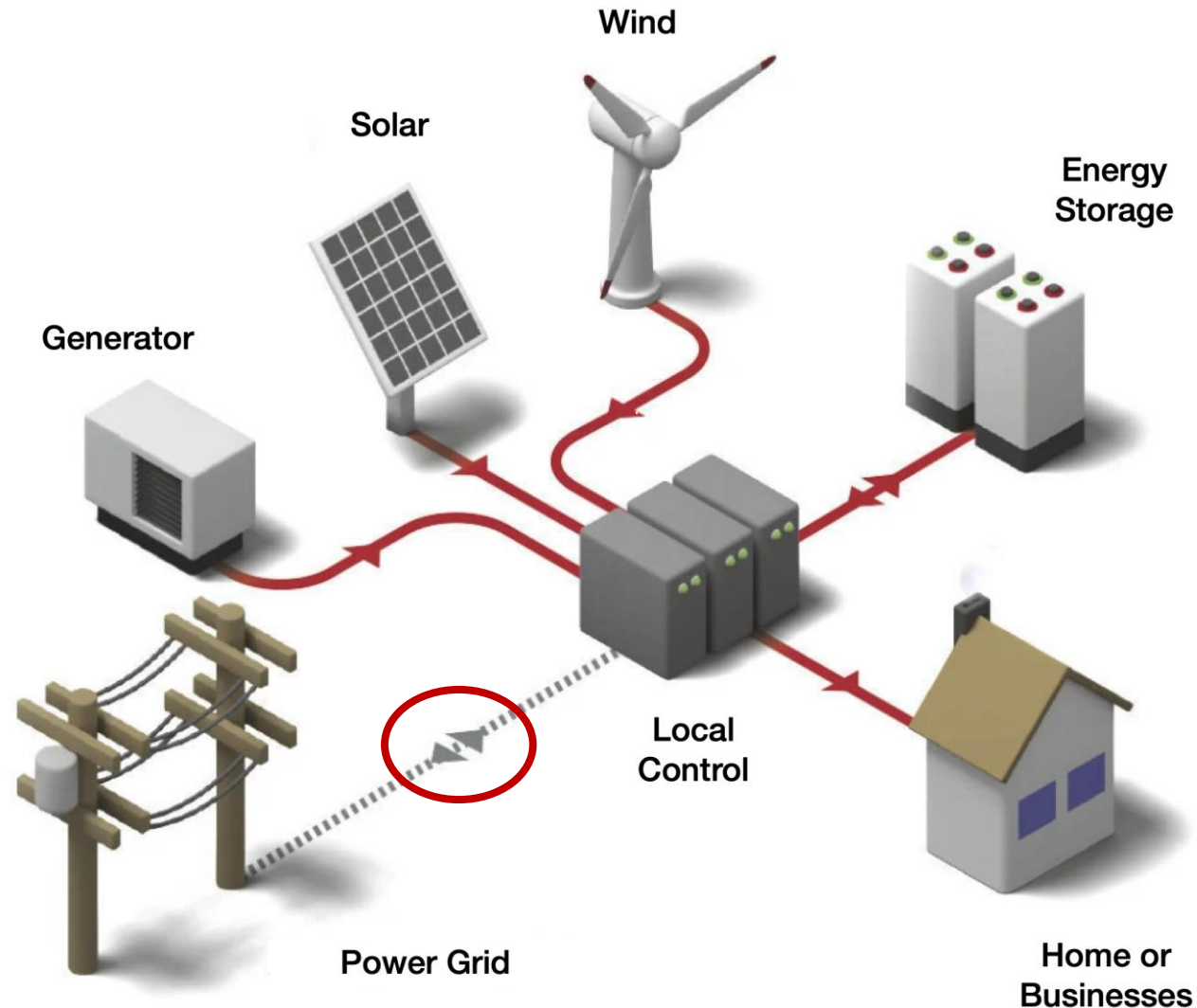
What is a Microgrid?



A small power system with the ability to operate connected to the larger grid, or by itself in stand-alone mode.

5 key components:

- energy sources (generators, storage)
- Energy sinks (loads)
- a way to connect/ disconnect to the larger power system (PCC)
- means for controlling the microgrid
- appropriate safety assurance systems



Project site: Wellpinit, WA



Spokane Tribe Grid Resiliency Hypothetical Design Concepts- For further development and analysis

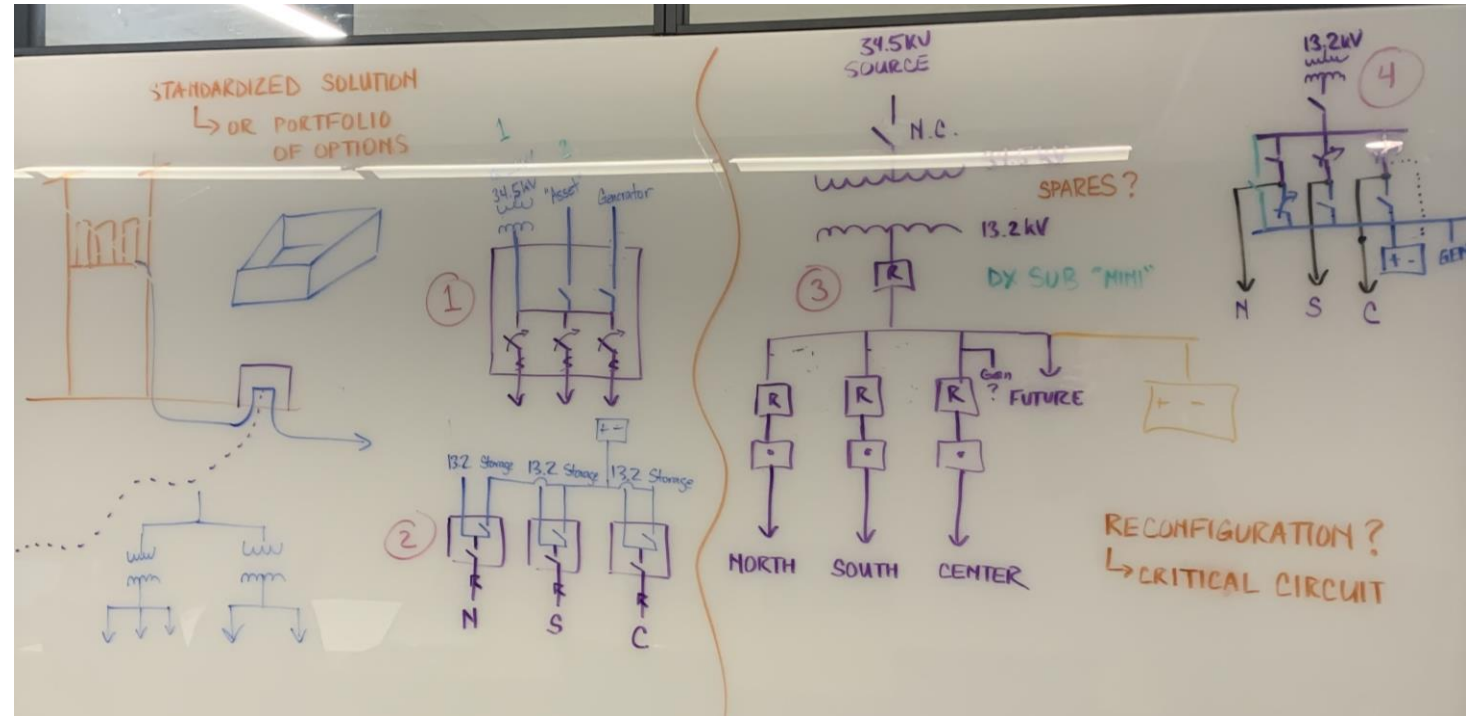


“Switchable” platform that could enable power to be switched between three or more stepdown circuits during an emergency

Could replace elevated building transformers currently located behind post office

Could potentially create a “critical loads” circuit- to ensure that power is available / prioritized to buildings that are critical to Tribal operations during emergencies

Location TBD, but would be somewhere in or near Wellpinit core area



Spokane Tribal Administrative Building Energy Audit



Systems & Equipment Reviewed:

- Rooftop Units
- Building Automation
- Ductwork
- Solar Array
- Server/IT Rooms
- Building Envelope
- Building Interior
- Lighting

13 total opportunities identified; **40% reduction in energy bills possible**

RESOURCE  SYNERGY

Department of Commerce CEF 5: Rural Clean Energy Innovation Grant

A new program to support clean energy research, development and implementation. Includes set asides for tribal energy projects.

Project profile:



Funding for efficiency upgrades at Tribal Administrative Building as identified in ASHRAE Level II Energy Audit



Total project cost:

\$1.1 million

\$980,000 grant request

\$120,000 required match



March 23 application deadline



Photographs



Carrier ASHP



Tear in Fabric Duct Transition

5



Example 1500W Space Heater



Proposed 200W Panel Heater

Spokane Tribe

Rank	EAG Initiatives
1*	Focus efforts on improving energy efficiency for Spokane Tribe partners
5*	Set aside funds to match for energy efficiency grant applications for community organizations and tribal partners (could have higher feasibility)



CEIP Public Participation

- Update & Feedback -

CEIP Public Participation Strategy

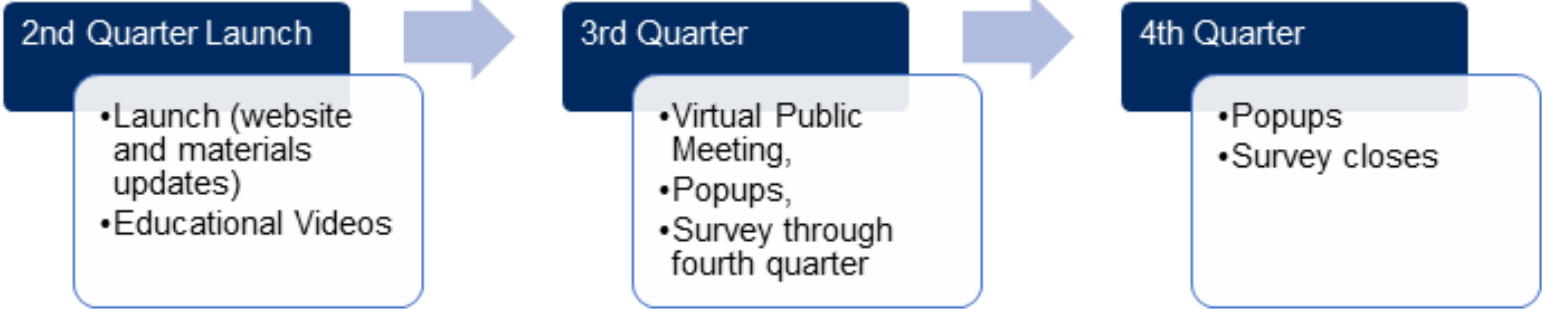
Outreach Goals

- Establish early and continuous public participation opportunities that provide timely information to all interested parties.
- Provide multiple methods for public input to gain an understanding of the values and needs of residents.
- Provide reasonable public access to information to enhance the public's knowledge and ability to participate.
- Promote an open, inclusive, and transparent public involvement process by providing clear and consistent information that is easy to understand and disseminated in multiple formats based on audience needs.
- Implement measures for seeking input from and considering the needs of those traditionally underserved Named Communities, such as low-income, minority, disabled, and non-English speaking individuals.

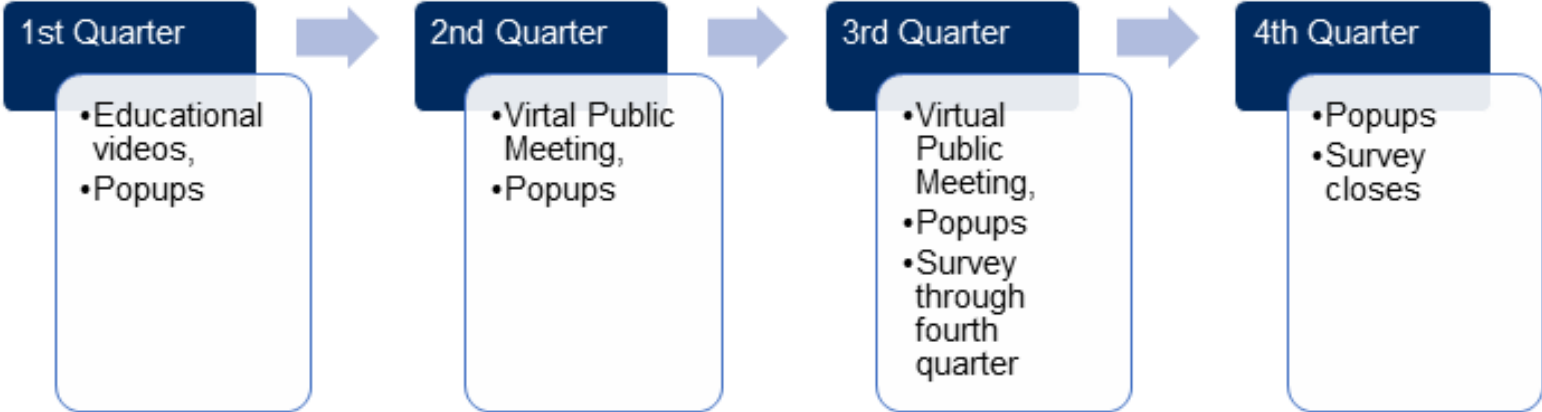


CEIP Public Participation Strategy

2023 Timeline



2024 Timeline



CEIP Public Participation Strategy

Meeting Methods

Virtual Public Meetings

- Provide education on CEIP Implementation
- 1 – 1.25 hr. duration
- Live language interpretation
- Advertise
 - email, customer service line message, social media, bill inserts, newsletters, digital & printed flyers
- Recorded & posted to website
- *Alternative*
 - Prerecorded, language subtitles, view at customer's leisure
 - 15 – 20 minutes

Popup Events

- Existing community events
- Community partner organization sponsored events
- At least one event per quarter
- Printed and translated materials
- Surveys, program applications, and lightbulbs

CEIP Public Participation Strategy

Data Collection Methods

- Purpose: Identify customer's perspectives on customer benefit indicators (CBIs) and programmatic impact.

Online survey

Paper survey distributed to community partners

Pop-up events

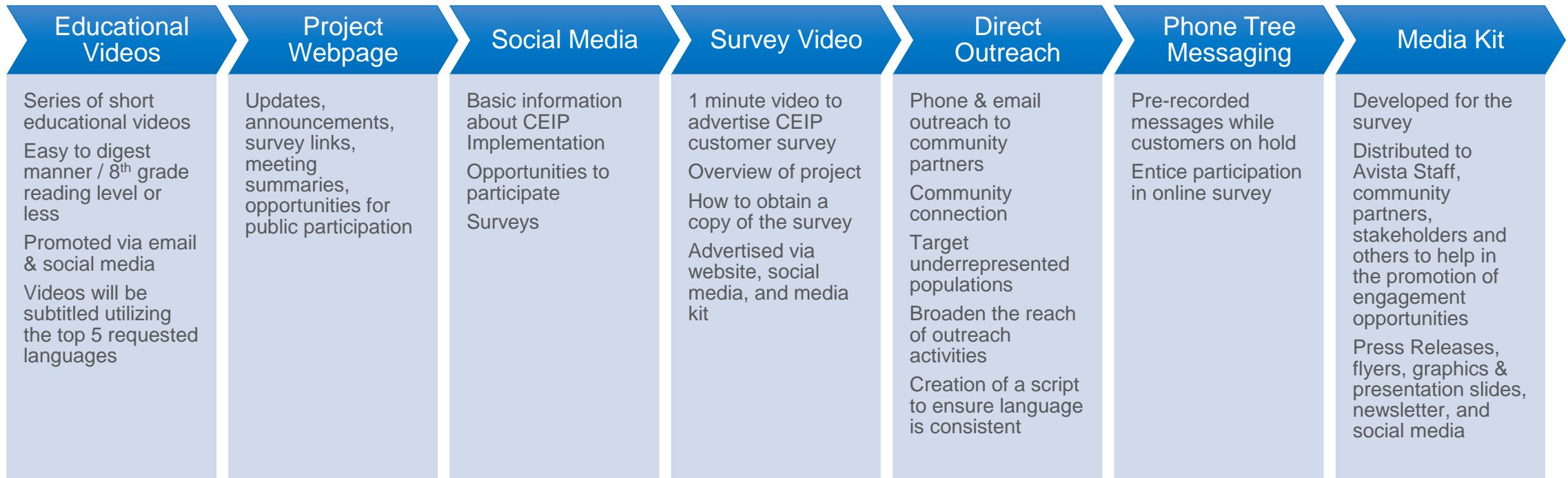
Project hotline

Feedback utilized:

- Biennial CEIP
- FAQ & A
- Development of education videos
- Monthly newsletters

CEIP Public Participation Strategy

Communication Methods



Upcoming Public Participation

April 11th, 2023 @ 12:00pm & 5:00pm



Dear Customer,

Over the last several years, you've heard us talk about our [clean energy goals](#) and our [resource planning](#) to support this transition.

We are creating new ways for customers to be engaged and informed through ongoing public participation meetings regarding our Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP).

Next Meeting | Support Team

Evening:
Wednesday, April
19th @ 4:30 to 6:00
pm

Wed. 19th April

Fri. 21st April

Morning: Friday,
April 21st @ 7:30 to
9:00 am

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