

Session 1: Wednesday, March 19, 2025, 12:00pm

Session 2: Friday, Mon March 21, 2025, 07:30am



Equity Advisory Group – Equity Lens Session

March 2025

| www.myavista.com/ceta



Introductions & Agenda

Topic	Topic Owner
Welcome, introductions overview of the meeting: rules and intent	Amber Lenhart
Connections/Partner Shares	Connections/Partners
2025-2027 Public Participation Plan	Tamara Bradley
Questions & Discussion	Amber Lenhart
Wrap-up and Adjourn	Amber Lenhart

Ground Rules

- Stay present** mentally and physically when possible.
- Listen** with an open mind and be open to new ideas.
- Participate** in discussion, share concerns and ideas, and give others space to do so.
- Ask questions** at any time. Use Zoom's "raise hand" feature or chat during presentations.
- Work together** to consider different perspectives and support the meeting goal(s).
- Respect** the role of the facilitator to guide the group process.

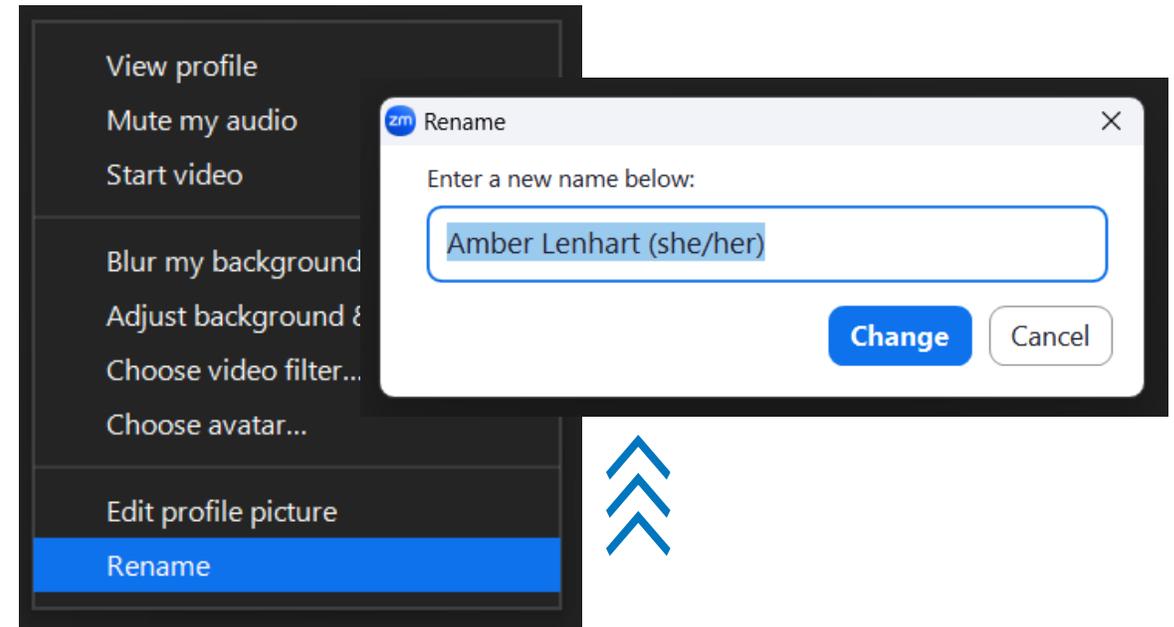
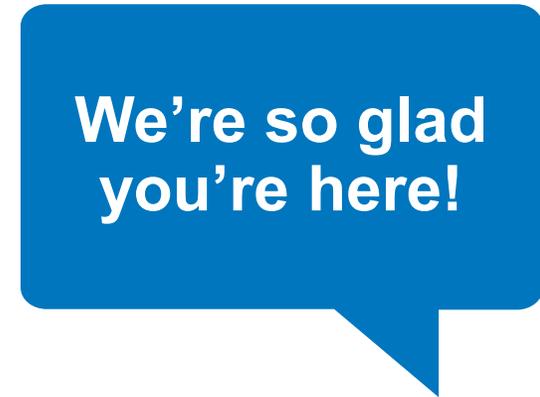


Introductions

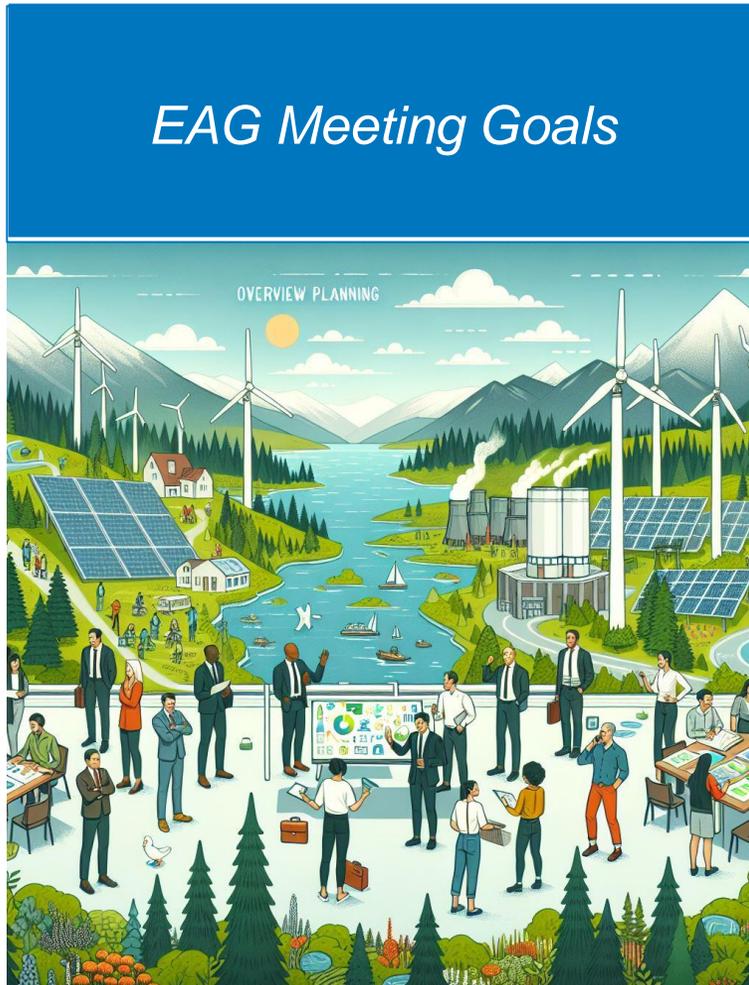
Please share in the chat:

- Your name
- Organization or community

Optional: Consider including >>> your pronouns in your Zoom name



Today's Equity Lens Session March 2025



EAG Equity Lens Session Meeting Goals:

1. Inform EAG members of 2025-2027 Public Participation Plan content.
2. Obtain feedback on components of Public Participation Plan.

IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation

IAP2's Spectrum of Public Participation was designed to assist with the selection of the level of participation that defines the public's role in any public participation process. The Spectrum is used internationally, and it is found in public participation plans around the world.

INCREASING IMPACT ON THE DECISION

	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, 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.
PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.

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Connection Question

What do you look forward to in spring?



Partner Shares

- Upcoming relevant community events or opportunities
- Pressing issues facing our community or a need someone might be able to address
- Challenges your organization is facing (especially around equity)





2025-2027 Public Participation Plan

Tamara Bradley, Manager of Social Impact

2025 – 2027 Public Participation Plan



Participation Strategies

- Virtual public meetings
- Quarterly email newsletter
- Equity Advisory Group/NCIF
- Community events
- Biennial CEIP survey
- CEIP webpage improvements
- Increase multi-language access
- Educational videos
- Targeted paid social media
- Community partnerships
- Named Communities

Virtual Public Participation Meetings

- Quarterly
- Customer email, website, social media, flyers with QR codes
- CEIP topics
- Interactive
- Increased participation
- Next meeting: March 26 from 7:30-8:30am, 12:00-1:00pm on Energy Efficiency programs



Quarterly Newsletter



Need help with your energy bill? We can help.



Partnering for safety



Upcoming Events

NCIF/ Equity Advisory Group

We support equity in energy.



Named Communities Investment Fund (NCIF)

Named Communities are those most vulnerable to the effects of pollution and climate change, due to socioeconomic and other factors. NCIF is a competitive grant program that provides funding for projects, programs, and initiatives benefiting these communities.

[Apply today](#)



Equity Advisory Group (EAG)

A group of community partners in Washington that provide Avista with input, feedback, and guidance around equity and community engagement as it relates to the shift to clean energy.

[Learn more](#)

Community Events



Gauging Customer Sentiment



2024 CEIP Survey

Who: 156,000 WA electric customers

What: 7 energy questions | 13 optional demographic questions

Completed Surveys: 1,900 or 1.2%
Online: 1,866 (1 Spanish)
Paper: 34 (1 Spanish)

Demographic Responder Profile:
White, male, 66+, homeowner, heterosexual,
English speaking, college degree

Accessibility

Online: English | Spanish
Paper: Russian | Spanish | Ukrainian | Arabic

Promotion: Email | Public events | CBOs | Avista lobby | Email newsletter | Public meetings

Discoveries

Affordability is most important

Reducing climate impacts & new technology are the biggest benefits

Increased bill cost is the greatest burden

CETA Webpage Improvements

Before

Washington's Clean Energy Future

Sign up for our quarterly CEIP newsletter

Overview

In 2019, Washington State passed the Clean Energy Transformation Act requiring an electricity supply free of greenhouse gas emissions by 2045. This aligns with the state's goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. The act also requires that 100% of electricity be generated from renewable or non-carbon emitting sources by 2045.

There are also provisions to ensure affordability and reliability for all our customers as we undergo this energy transformation.

Rules for implementing CEIA were adopted in December 2020 by the Washington State Department of Commerce and Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission.

Avista created our Clean Energy Advisory Plan (CEAP) with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) on April 1, 2021 and April 16, 2021, outlining Avista's proposed implementation plan for the next 10 years to meet CEIA requirements.

In addition, we filed our Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP) in October 2021 with input from our Equity Advisory Group (EAG) to help guide our energy plan. The CEIP will be updated every 2 years as well as our implementation plan for each subsequent year, along with our CEIP updates.

Community involvement is critical to our efforts, and we want to hear from you directly on what benefits you and your community in the transition to a cleaner energy future. Please know this is just the beginning, and we will continue to update you as we move forward.

[View our CEIP](#)

- Public Participation Meetings
- Equity Advisory Group
- Equity Advisory Group Meetings
- 2026-2029 CEIP Advisory Group
- Avista Advisory Group
- Named Community Investment Fund
- 2022-2025 Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP)

Named Community Investment Fund

Avista is providing opportunity for organizations and/or interested entities to apply for funding under its Named Community Investment Fund (NCIF). As part of the Clean Energy Transformation Act and approved by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) under the company's Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP) the NCIF is an investment of up to \$5 million annually for projects, programs, and initiatives that directly benefit Washington electric customers residing in Named Communities.

Community-based projects for NCIF awards will be selected for funding through a competitive application process that is accessible through an online application. The application process will be open continuously.

Applicants can expect to receive a funding decision within 30 days of their application being submitted. NCIF awards are determined through a competitive grant application process. Avista will give priority consideration to applications submitted by non-profit (501(c)(3)) organizations that serve Avista's electric customers residing within Named Communities.

Applications can be submitted online at https://www.cybergrants.com/avista/ceta_quiz. At a minimum, successful applications must benefit populations located within Named Communities and positively impact the Customer Benefit Indicators.

- 2026-2029 CEIP Advisory Group

Avista's Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP) Advisory Group allows customers and interested parties to participate in planning Avista's 2026-2029 CEIP. This temporary advisory group will meet monthly from January through fall 2025 to discuss the energy targets and specific actions Avista will commit to in the CEIP. The final plan will be filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission on October 1, 2025.

People interested in joining the advisory group can email ceta@avistacorp.com.

Agenda Topic & Materials	Date	Time
Topic: 2022-2025 CEIP Targets and Progress View presentation View January 14, 2025 meeting notes Watch January 14, 2025 recorded meeting	January 14, 2025	9-10:30 am
Topic: 2026-2029 CEIP Proposed Targets and Specific Actions View presentation View February 18, 2025 recorded meeting	February 18, 2025	9-10:30 am

After

Washington's Clean Energy Future

Washington is making the change to a carbon-free electricity supply by 2045. Avista is working to ensure energy stays affordable and reliable during the transition.

Adjusting our resources and reducing our carbon footprint.

Going forward, energy production across Washington will move away from fossil fuels that emit pollution and greenhouse gases. This aligns with Avista's goal of offering a mix of renewable energy solutions to our Washington customers.

About 60% of Avista's energy already comes from naturally occurring resources, like wind, solar, hydropower and biomass. The changes we are making ensure that 100% of our energy is naturally occurring, lessening our environmental impact on the next generation.

Our clean energy commitment involves:

- Helping customers save energy with efficiency programs
- Reducing our greenhouse gas emissions
- Keeping electricity reliable and affordable

What's next?

The [Clean Energy Transformation Act \(CETA\)](#) requires that all Washington energy be free of greenhouse gas emissions by 2045. As we work toward that goal, we will:

What's next?

The [Clean Energy Transformation Act \(CETA\)](#) requires that all Washington energy be free of greenhouse gas emissions by 2045. As we work toward that goal, we will:

- Eliminate all coal-fired electricity by the end of 2025
- Use a carbon-neutral supply of electricity by 2030
- Source 100 percent of electricity from renewable or non-carbon-emitting sources by 2045

We support equity in energy.

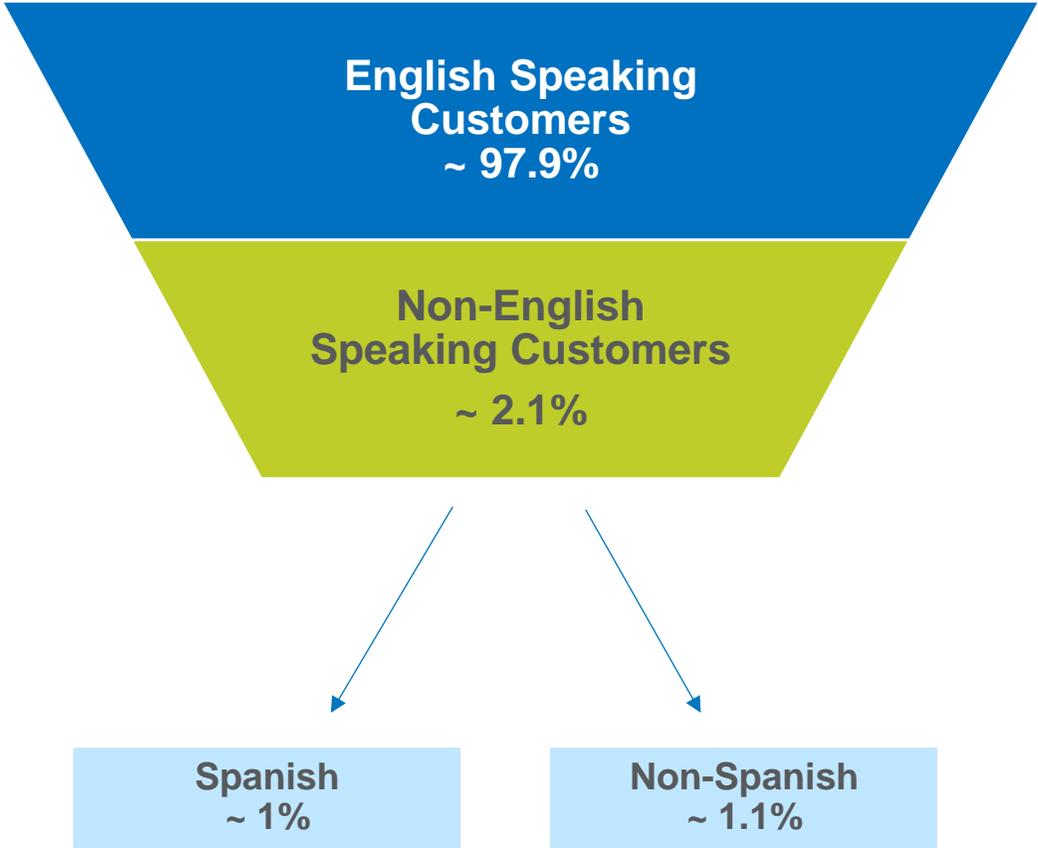
- Named Communities Investment
- Equity Advisory Group (EAG)

CETA landing page with four new pages:

- Public Meetings
 - Equity Advisory Group
 - Named Communities Investment Fund
 - Clean Energy Implementation Plan
-
- Improved user experience
 - Incorporates multi-language access
 - Engaging and informative
 - Meets requirements

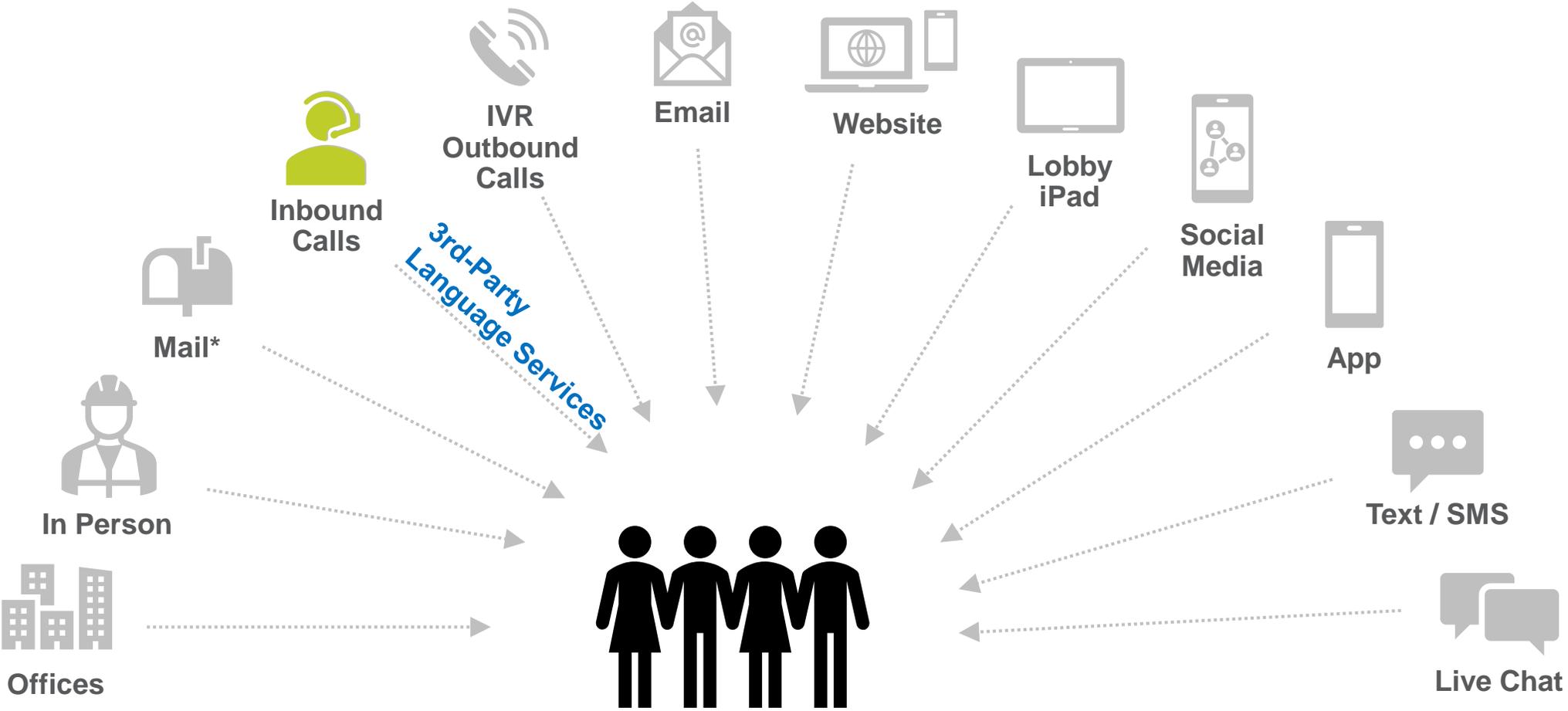
Increasing Washington's Multi-Language Access

Washington Residential Customer Languages*



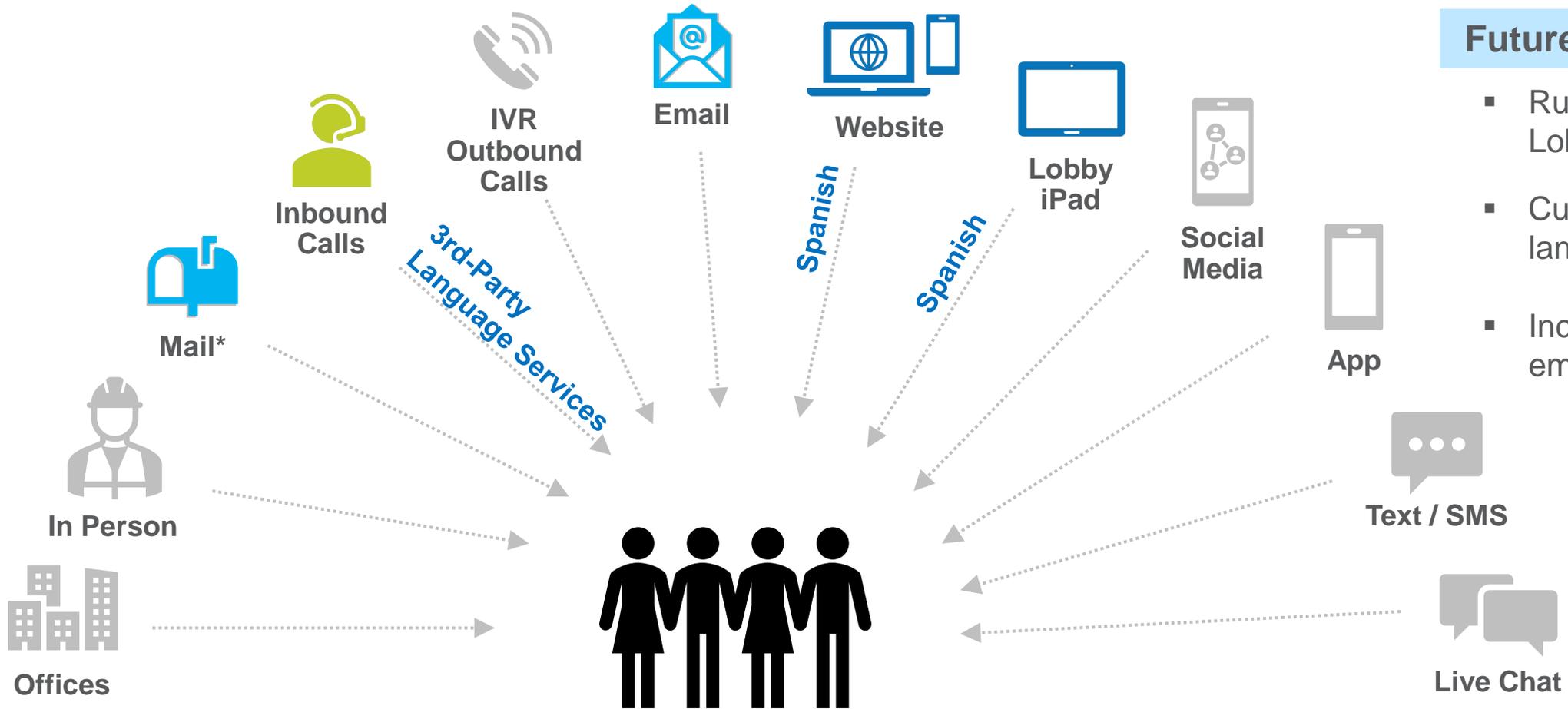
*Based on Public Participation Partner's independent study included in Avista's 2023 Public Participation Plan

Multi-Language Access Prior to 2024



*Includes bills, collection notices, post cards, letters, program offers

Multi-Language Access Today & the Future



Future Considerations

- Russian Website & Lobby iPad
- Customer contact & language preference
- Increase non-English emails & mail (non-bill)

*Includes bills, collection notices, post cards, letters, program offers

Educational Videos & Targeted Social Media



CEIP Educational Videos

Highlighting success stories of actual Avista customers

- *My Energy Discount video & others to be promoted on social media*
- *Translated subtitles in priority languages (Spanish, Russian, Ukrainian, Arabic and Marshallese)*

Targeted Paid Social Media

Increase audience reach with paid social media

- *Paid NCIF stories had a ~42% impression increase compared to non-paid NCIF stories.*
- *Paid post for Q4 public meeting – attendance more than doubled compared to prior quarters.*

Named Communities Identification

2022 – 2025 CEIP

WA DOH Map: Environmental Exposure | Environmental Effects | Socioeconomic Factors | Sensitive Populations | Tribal Census Tracts

- **Highly Impacted Communities*:** All sensitivities combined score 9 or higher or Tribal Census Tracts
- **Vulnerable Populations:** Socioeconomic & Sensitive Populations at 9 or higher

+ EAG Input

Tenants (renters)	Monolingual (no written language)	Youth (some help families navigate resources)	Houseless populations	Health disparities and/or other language communication barriers	Individuals who do not read	Migrant workers
Fossil fuel industry workers	LGBTQIA2S+	Older homes with older infrastructure	American Indian and Alaska Native (small reservations)	Religious and spiritual people	Have a history of gender or sex identity related to their culture and profession	Youngest generation (high school, college)
Undocumented individuals	Non-English Speakers (e.g., Spanish, Marshallese, Russian/Slovak)	Peaceful Valley	BIPOC	Rural	People who fall between the cracks	People with disabilities
Low-Income	NE Spokane households	Neighboring communities and states	Eastside of Spokane	FOCUS POPULATIONS		

* WAC 480-100-605

2023 Biennial CEIP

- Retained WA DOH map for Highly Impacted & Vulnerable Populations
- Additions based on discussions with EAG & advisory groups

Federal Climate and Economic Justice 40 Map: Climate Change | Energy | Health | Housing | Legacy Pollution | Transportation | Water & Wastewater | Workforce Development (all sensitivities, all scores)

Named Communities* Populations

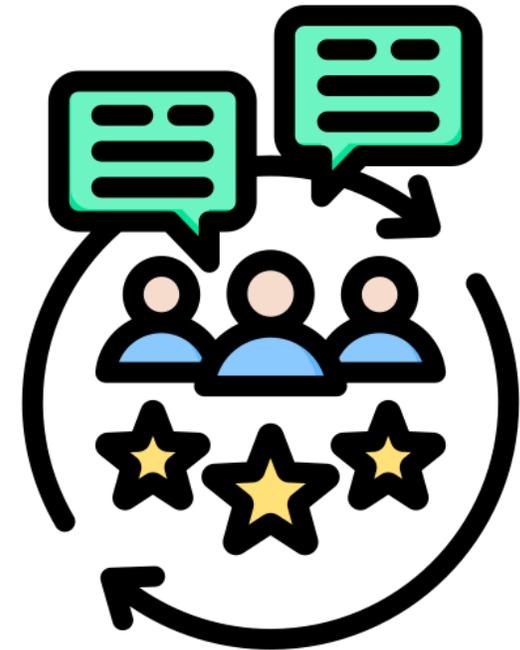
Avista Electric Residential Households (as of Q4 2024)	245,564**	
	2021 CEIP	2025 CEIP
Washington State Department of Health (DOH)	DOH V1 2019	DOH V2
Highly Impacted Communities	15,157	+ 19,610
Vulnerable Populations	43,010	+ 6,967
Both HIC & VP	47,700	+ 2,556
Total	105,587 or 43%	134,720 or 55%**
Federal Climate and Economic Justice 40 Map		J40 V2 2024
All sensitives & scores added to Vulnerable Populations		+ 8,637
Avista's Projected Named Community Population	143,357 or 58%**	

*The Named Community designation is not a direct correlation to known low-income customers

**2025 CEIP Named Community percentage based on Washington electrical residential household count

2025 Public Participation Plan Open for Comment

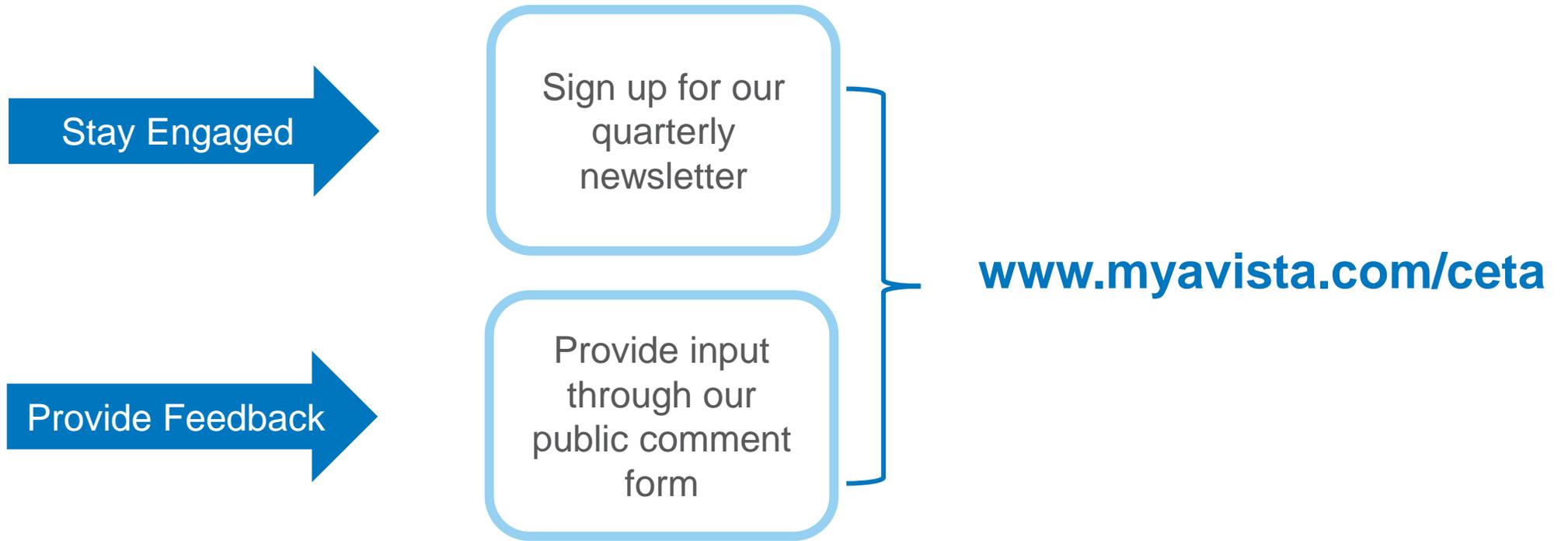
- Public Participation Plan draft available: April 1, 2025
- Comment deadline: April 15, 2025
- Email: ceta@avistacorp.com
- File with Washington UTC: May 1, 2025



Questions and Discussion

- What clarifying questions or curiosities do you have about the presentation?
- What disparities, root factors, or inequities (historic and current) are related to this topic?
- How could Avista improve engagement strategies related to this topic, if at all?
- What new ways could help measure and track benefits and reduced burdens related to this topic?
- What steps, practices, or policies could help reduce future inequities related to this topic?

Thank you



Next EAG Equity Lens Session Meetings

Afternoon: 12pm – 1:30pm

Wednesday, April 23rd

Friday, April 25th

Morning: 7:30am to 9:00am

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Avista's EAG Team Email
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