Session 1: Wednesday, April 23, 2025, 12:00pm

**Session 2:** Friday, April 25, 2025, 07:30am



# **Equity Advisory Group – Equity Lens Session**



# **Introductions & Agenda**

Topic	Topic Owner
Welcome, introductions overview of the meeting: rules and intent	Amber Lenhart
Connections/Partner Shares	Connections/Partners
March 2025 EAG Comment & Action Review	Dan Blazquez, Customer Engagement Manager
2025 Clean Energy Implementation Plan Customer Benefit Indicators	Kelly Dengel, Clean Energy Policy & Implementation Manager
Questions & Discussion	Amber Lenhart
Wrap-up and Adjourn	Dan Blazquez



### **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.





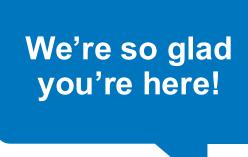
### **Introductions**

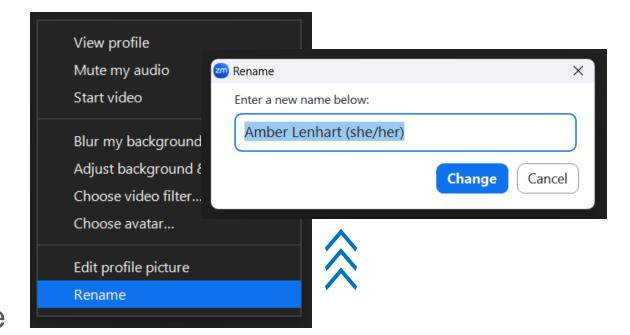
Please share in the chat:

■ Your name

Organization or community

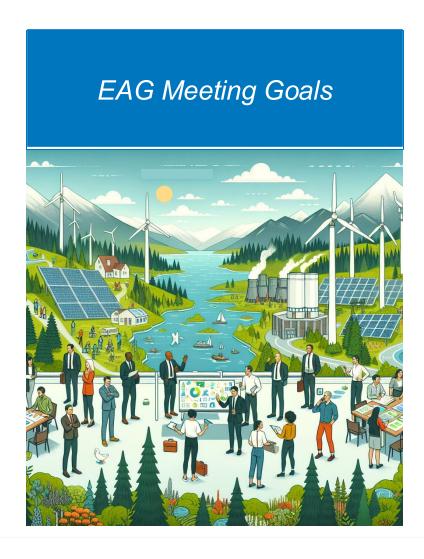
*Optional*: Consider including >>> your pronouns in your Zoom name







### **Today's Equity Lens Session April 2025**



#### **EAG Equity Lens Session Meeting Goals:**

- 1. Share proposed 2025 CEIP Customer Benefit Indicator metrics
- 2. Receive feedback on proposed Customer Benefit Indicator metrics.



# **Spectrum of Public Participation**



	INCREASING IMPACT ON T	HE 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.



### **Connection Question**

What is one thing you're looking forward to in the next few months, either personally or professionally?





### **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)







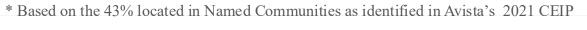
## March 2025 EAG Comment & Action Review

Dan Blazquez | Customer Engagement Manager



### **March EAG Comments & Actions**

Area	Comment	Avista's Response
Energy Burden  & Named Communities	<ul> <li>Did Avista consider the average energy burden of the projected 58% Named Community (NC) population?</li> <li>What is the average energy burden of the Named Community population?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>This number is still being calculated</li> <li>NC Average Energy Burden</li> <li>2025 CEIP Projected:</li> <li>Currently: 22% of customers in NCs have an energy burden of 6% or greater*</li> </ul>
Public Participation	We use a Community Health Needs Assessment that helps us determine how to engage with the community. It would be great to see how it could work in other spaces. I would love to collaborate with you on this because there is so much cross over with the people we work with.	<ul> <li>Avista is working with the Manager of Administrative Services at Providence on a potential joint Community Health Needs Assessment</li> </ul>





### **March EAG Comments & Actions**

Area	Comment	Avista's Response
Public Participation &  Energy Savings	At Aging & Long-Term Care we have people who are in the 5 county areas that represent Named Communities. If you could come and do a presentation that shows how to save on electricity bills that we could share with our populations, that would be a great thing.	<ul> <li>Avista is reviewing future dates to meet with Aging &amp; Long-Term Care of Eastern WA (ALTCEW); April 28th, May 23rd, or June 27<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul>
Public Participation &  & Survey Responses	Organizational networking is a focus for Washington Rural Environment Network (WREN) this year. We can help facilitate this type of outreach (surveys) as an example of why folks should belong to an organization that has a rural focused network. Please share this information with Paul Kimmel.	<ul> <li>Avista's Regional Business Manager for the Palouse region and WREN met in Colfax on April 9, 2025.</li> </ul>





# 2025 Clean Energy Implementation Plan

Customer Benefit Indicators Metrics

Kelly Dengel | Clean Energy Policy & Implementation Manager



### **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?



### **Customer Benefit Indicator Metrics**

 Measure, and hold accountable to, an equitable transition to clean energy

 Ensure the equitable distribution of energy and nonenergy benefits and reductions of burdens to Named Communities **Operational Needs** 

**State Regulations** 

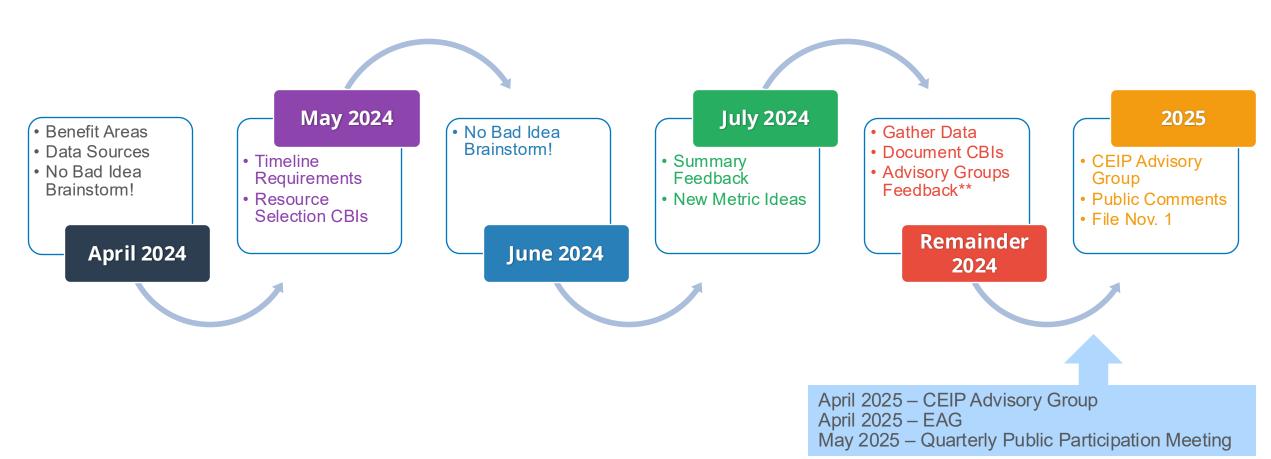
**Federal Regulations** 

**Company Goals** 





### 2026-2029 CEIP CBIs & Metrics Timeline\*



\*December 2024 EAG meeting



<sup>\*\*</sup>October 2024 EAAG & November 2024 EAAG meetings

### **How Avista Considered EAG Metric Ideas**

## All EAG Ideas! Is it measurable? Covered by the law? Is it applicable? Can Avista directly influence? Is it an action or an indicator? Is it covered by an existing CBI or Metric? Do we have the data, or can we acquire the data? Is there a proxy we could use? Possible CBI for discussion!

\*July 2024 EAG meeting



### **Metric Modifications for the 2026-2029 CEIP**

Benefit Area	Existing CBI	Metric
	O	Regional greenhouse gas emissions
	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Avista greenhouse gas emissions
Environmental		Weighted average days exceeding healthy levels
	Outdoor Air Quality	Avista plant air emissions
		Decrees use of wood heat for home heating

- Remove "Regional GHG emissions" metric
  - Avista has no control over the region
  - Not enough data to support
- Remove "Weighted average days exceeding healthy levels" metric
  - WA Department of Ecology air quality map for the state



<sup>\*</sup>December 2024 EAG meeting, October 2024 EEAG & November 2024 EAAG meetings

# **Considering Metric Alignment**

#### **Performance Based Rate Metric (PBR)**

- 2022 Washington General Rate Case
- 95 PBRs | 278 Metrics
- Reported quarterly & annually
- Natural gas & electric customers

#### **Customer Benefit Indicator Metric (CBI)**

- 2022 Clean Energy Implementation Plan
- 14 CBIs | 84 metrics
- Reported biannually
- Electric customers



Staff & interested parties' recommendation
Align PBR & CBI metrics were appropriate
for reporting consistency & frequency



Stay tuned for more CBI conversations into 2025 . . .

\*December 2024 EAG meeting



### 2024 WA GRC Metric Outcome

... the Commission has reduced the number of PBR metrics on which Avista will be required to report to 33. These metrics consist of 12 metrics that have been refined or proposed during this proceeding and the 21 metrics contained in the Commission's Policy Statement Addressing Initial Reported Performance Metrics, including the metrics established pursuant to RCW 80.28.425(7).

In many cases, metrics were removed because the same information can be found in other reporting required by the Commission, such as information reported as part of Customer Benefit Indicators or were already incorporated into other required PBR metrics. The Commission also authorized the removal of metrics where no party opposed removal, as the lack of opposition suggests that the metric provides little value in reviewing Avista's operations.

Similarly, the Commission declined to require a metric if the proposed measurement involved too many factors outside Avista's control because the metric would provide limited insight into the effect of Avista's operational decisions.



### **2021 Customer Benefit Indicators**











#### **Affordability**

**Accessibility** 

**Energy** Resilience

**Energy Security** 

**Environmental** 

Public Health

Participation in Company Programs

High Energy Burden Outreach & Communication

Transportation Electrification

NC Investments

NC Clean Energy

Energy Availability

Energy Generation Location

Residential Arrears & Disconnects

Outdoor Air Quality

Greenhouse Gas Emissions **Employee Diversity** 

**Supplier Diversity** 

**Indoor Air Quality** 



### **2025 CEIP CBI Metric Change Summary**

#### 2021 CEIP CBIs/Metrics

- 6 Equity Areas
- 14 CBIs
- 84 Metrics

#### **2025 Proposed CBIs/Metrics**

- 6 Equity Areas
- 13 CBIs (combine NC Clean Energy & NC Investments)
- 54 Metrics
  - Retain 2021 Metric | No Change 29
  - Retain 2021 Metric | Modification 7
  - Remove 2021 Metric 46
  - Add New 2025 Metric 18

**Focus** 



# **Affordability Metrics**

X Available in required reporting

Not available in required reporting

**CBI** 2021 Metrics | 8

2025 Proposed Metrics | 6

# 1. Participation in Company Programs

Participation in weatherization & energy assistance programs All & NC | 4

Condition 17:

NC residential rebates\* and those in rental units | 2

Saturation of energy assistance programs All & NC | 2

\*NC residential rebates reported in ACR/BCR

Retain 2021 metrics | 4

Retain 2021 metrics | 2



# **Affordability Metrics**

X Available in required reporting

Not available in required reporting

CBI

2021 Metrics | 16

#### 2025 Proposed Metrics | 6

# 2. Households with Energy Burden (>6%)

Condition 18:

Number & percentage of households by All, NC & KLI\* | 6

#### Condition 38:

High energy burden by census X tract, highest/lowest median NC, KLI, over 65, homes built before 1980, owner/renter status | 7

Average excess burden by All, NC, KLI\* | 3



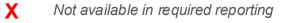
\*Reported in the Low-Income Rate Assistance Program

**PBR**: Average energy burden after energy assistance\*\* by census tract for All & NC | 2

**PBR**: Number & percentage of high energy burden after energy assistance\*\* for All & NC | 4

<sup>\*\*</sup>Direct financial assistance for utility bills





**CBI** 2021 Metrics | 4

3. Availability of Methods/Modes of Outreach & Communication

Number of outreach contacts |1

Number of marketing impressions | 1

Condition 19: Number of translation services | 1

Condition 19: Number of unique languages translated | 1 2025 Proposed Metrics | 4

Retain 2021 metric | 1



X Available in required reporting

Not available in required reporting

**CBI** 2021 Metrics | 3

2025 Proposed Metrics | 3

4. Transportation Electrification

Number of trips provided by CBOs | 1

Number of miles driven provided by CBOs | 1

Number of *public* charging stations in NCs | 1

Retain 2021 metric | 1

Retain 2021 metric | 1

Modify 2021 metric: Number of charging stations in NCs | 1



Available in required reporting Not available in required reporting

CBI 2021 Metrics | 3

**5. Named Community Clean Energy** 

Investments in Named **Communities** 

Condition 26:

Total MWh of distributed energy resources 5 MW and under in NC | 1



Condition 26:

Total MWh of energy storage 5 MW and under in NC| 1



Condition 26:

Number of distributed renewable energy resources and energy storage resources in NC | 1



2025 Proposed Metrics | 12

**PBR**: Number and percentage of NC enrollments in Distributed Energy Resource programs: Energy Efficiency, Electric Transportation, Net Metering, Demand Response | 8

**PBR**: Percentage of NC utility spend in Distribution Energy Resource programs: Energy Efficiency, Electric Transportation, Net Metering, Demand Response | 4



X Available in required reporting

Not available in required reporting

**CBI** 2021 Metrics | 5

# 6. Investments in Named Communities

Incremental spending each year in NC | 1

Number of customers and or CBOs served | 1

Quantification of energy/nonenergy\* benefits from investments (if applicable) | 3

\*NCIF EE reported in Annual Conservation Report, NCIF Community reported in CEIP & CETA Cost Recovery Tarif

#### 2025 Proposed Metrics | 2

Retain 2021 metric | 1

Retain 2021 metric | 1



# **Energy Resiliency Metrics**

X Available in required reportingX Not available in required reporting

**CBI** 2021 Metrics | 13

#### 7. Energy Availability

Average duration w/o major events for All and NC | 2

*Planning* reserve margin for winter/summer | 2

#### Condition 21:

Frequency of outages (CEMI0) w/o major events for All & NC | 2

#### Condition 38:

Frequency of outages (CEMI0) by census tract, NC highest/lowest median, KLI, over 65, homes built before 1980, owner/renter | 7

#### 2025 Proposed Metrics | 6

Retain 2021 metrics | 2

Modify 2021 metric
Reserve margin for winter/summer | 2

Retain 2021 metrics | 2



# **Energy Security Metrics**

X Available in required reporting

Not available in required reporting

**CBI** 

2021 Metrics | 17

# 8. Energy Generation Location

Percent of generation located in WA or connected to Avista transmission | 1

# 9. Arrearages & Disconnections for Nonpayment

Residential arrearages reported in Docket U-200281, U-210800 | 8

#### Condition 22:

Number & percentage of disconnects for nonpayment by month census tract, All, KLI, NC | 8

#### 2025 Proposed Metrics | 4

Retain 2021 metric | 1

Modify 2021 metric
Percentage of disconnects for nonpayment by month by census tract for All & NC | 3



### **Environmental Metrics**

Available in required reporting Not available in required reporting X

**CBIs** 2021 Metrics | 8 2025 Proposed Metrics | 5

Retain 2021 metric | 4

#### 10. Outdoor Air Quality

Weighted average days exceeding healthy levels\* | 1



Avista plant air emissions | 4



Decreased use of wood heat for home heating | 1



11. Greenhouse Gas **Emissions** 

Regional GHG emissions\* | 1



\*Reported by the WA Department of Ecology; discussed removal with EAG, EEAG and EAAG

Modify 2021 metric adopt CCA calculation Avista GHG emissions | 1



### **Public Health Metrics**

X Available in required reporting

Not available in required reporting

CBIs	2021 Metrics   6
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**12. Employee Diversity**PBR: Employee diversity representative of communities served by 2035 | 1

13. Supplier Diversity

**PBR**: Supplier diversity at 11% by 2035 | 1

14. Indoor Air Quality

Condition 24:
Rank the causes of indoor air quality for All & NC | 2

Percentage of weatherization indoor air quality measures All & NC | 2

2025 Proposed Metrics | 6

Retain 2021 metrics | 1

Retain 2021 metrics | 1

Retain 2021 metrics | 2

Retain 2021 metrics | 2



### **2025 Customer Benefit Indicators**













**Affordability** 

**Accessibility** 

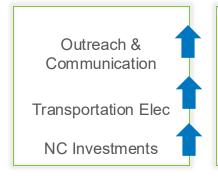
**Energy** Resilience

**Energy Security** 

**Environmental Affects** 

**Public Health** 

















# **Questions and Discussion**

**Amber Lenhart** 



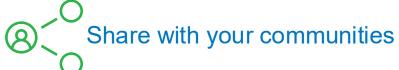
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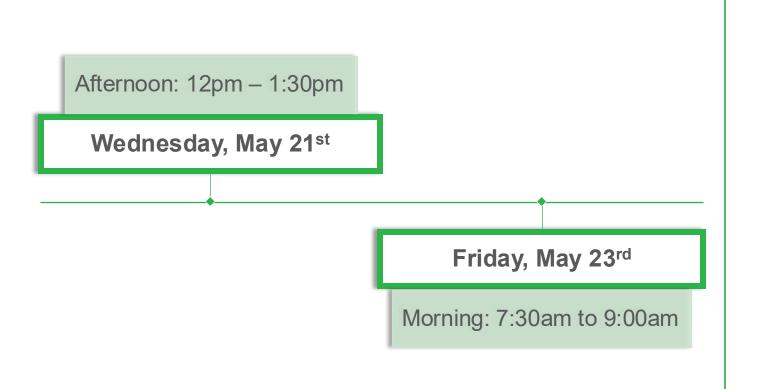
### Thank you







### **Next EAG Equity Lens Session Meetings**



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