

Equity Advisory Group – Equity Lens Session

Meeting Date: Friday, April 25, 2025

Time: 07:30 am – 9:00 am

Location: Zoom Meeting

Attendees:

| <i>Facilitator</i> | <i>Present</i> | <i>EAG Member</i> | <i>Member Organizations</i> |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Amber Lenhart | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Clyde Abrahamson | Spokane Indian Housing Authority |
| Avista Team Members | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Margee Chambers | Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency (SRCCA) |
| Dan Blazquez | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Andrew Gardner | Spokane Public Schools |
| Tamara Bradley | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Brook Beeler | Department of Ecology Eastern Region |
| Amanda Ghering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Sue Lani Madsen | Washington Rural Environmental Network (WREN) |
| Kelly Dengel | <input type="checkbox"/> | Connie Kiewer | NEWESD101 |
| Kristi Meyer | <input type="checkbox"/> | William von Bracht | Othello, school English as 2nd language |
| Ariana Barrey | <input type="checkbox"/> | Michele Bennington | Community member |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | KJ January | Spectrum |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jupiter McGee | Sunrise Spokane Affiliation (youth led) (Facebook) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Vanessa Strange | Spokane Public Library |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tami Dillion | Providence |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Latrice Williams | Community Member/ WA state board of Equity |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Cindy Kimmet | Takesa Village |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Carmen Groom | SNAP |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sandra Childers | Rural Resources - Colville |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Clair Trapp | Rural Resources |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jean Kindem | Aging & Long-Term Care of Eastern Washington |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Karen Boone | Community Member |
| | | Guests | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Agenda

| | | |
|------|--|----|
| I. | Welcome & Introductions..... | 2 |
| II. | Partner Share/ Connections | 2 |
| III. | Review Previous Meeting Comments..... | 3 |
| IV. | 2025 CEIP CBIs | 3 |
| V. | Questions and Discussion | 14 |
| VI. | Your Support Team and Next Meeting | 15 |

EAG Equity Lens Session Meeting Notes

I. Welcome & Introductions

II. Partner Share/ Connections

Information from Wednesday Equity Lens Session: Passages Family Support as Peer Support is having a self-care fair on May 1st. See the flyer below.



Science on the South Hill: Ferris High School May 22 5-7 pm



III. Review Previous Meeting Comments

Reviewed and discussed the action items and comments received during the March EAG meetings as outlined in slides 10 and 11 below.

March EAG Comments & Actions

| Area | Comment | Avista's Response |
|---|---|---|
| Energy Burden & Named Communities | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Did Avista consider the <i>average energy burden of the projected 58% Named Community (NC) population</i>?What is the average energy burden of the Named Community population? | <ul style="list-style-type: none">This number is still being calculatedNC Average Energy Burden<ul style="list-style-type: none">2025 CEIP Projected:Currently: 22% of customers in NCs have an energy burden of 6% or greater* |
| Public Participation | <ul style="list-style-type: none">We use a <i>Community Health Needs Assessment</i> that helps us determine <i>how to engage with the community</i>. 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 style="list-style-type: none">Avista is working with the Manager of Administrative Services at Providence on a potential joint Community Health Needs Assessment |

* Based on the 43% located in Named Communities as identified in Avista's 2021 CEIP

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March EAG Comments & Actions

| Area | Comment | Avista's Response |
|---|--|--|
| Public Participation & Energy Savings | <ul style="list-style-type: none">At <i>Aging & Long-Term Care</i> we have people who are in the 5 county areas that represent Named Communities. If you could come and <i>do a presentation that shows how to save on electricity bills that we could share with our populations</i>, that would be a great thing. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Avista is reviewing future dates to meet with Aging & Long-Term Care of Eastern WA (ALTCEW); April 28th, May 23rd, or June 27th. |
| Public Participation & Survey Responses | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Organizational networking is a focus for Washington Rural Environment Network (WREN)</i> this year. We can <i>help facilitate this type of outreach (surveys)</i> 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 style="list-style-type: none">Avista's Regional Business Manager for the Palouse region and WREN met in Colfax on April 9, 2025. |

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IV. 2025 CEIP CBIs

Slide 14 describes what CBIs are and how Avista balances competing demands.

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

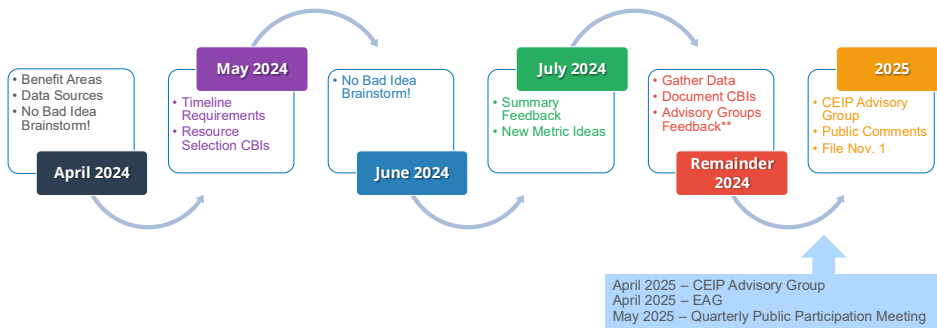


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Slide 15 provides a timeline of CBI metric discussions with Avista's various advisory groups and the public.

2026-2029 CEIP CBIs & Metrics Timeline*



*December 2024 EAG meeting

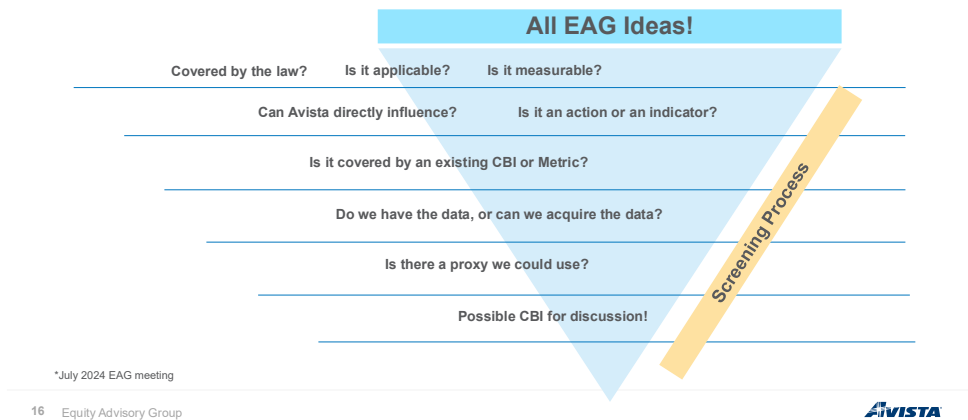
**October 2024 EAAG & November 2024 EAAG meetings

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Slide 16 was shared at the July EAG meeting. Avista used this “funnel” to review and discuss each CBI or metric idea that was brought to Avista.

How Avista Considered EAG Metric Ideas



The two modifications presented on slide 17 below, were shared with Avista’s advisory groups in 2024 and received advisory group support for removing the metrics.

Metric Modifications for the 2026-2029 CEIP

| Benefit Area | Existing CBI | Metric |
|---------------|--------------------------|--|
| Environmental | Greenhouse Gas Emissions | Regional greenhouse gas emissions |
| | | Avista greenhouse gas emissions |
| | Outdoor Air Quality | Weighted average days exceeding healthy levels |
| | | Avista plant air emissions |
| | | Decreases 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

*December 2024 EAG meeting, October 2024 EEAG & November 2024 EAAG meetings

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AVISTA

- **Member:** How does Avista measure use of wood for heating?
- **Avista:** A grant (which is now ending) was awarded to Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency (SRCCA) through the Department of Ecology to help track this metric. Avista was using this program to track changes to how many households reduced wood fire burning.
- **Member:** Avista is not a vendor of wood heating supplies or devices.

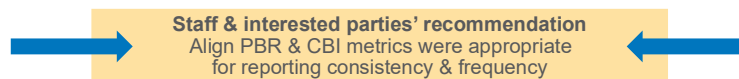
Considering Metric Alignment

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



Stay tuned for more CBI conversations into 2025 . . .

*December 2024 EAG meeting

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Slide 19 below outlines Avista's Washington General Rate Case (GRC) outcome details provided on slide 19 reflect the Commission's order as it pertains to Performance Based Regulation (PBR) metrics. The commission recognizes the importance of removing duplicative metrics when they are reported in other venues and/or do not fit the requirements of what is being asked for. The commission states that they "decline to require a metric if the proposed measurement involves too many factors outside Avista control." which has become a guiding principle for Avista when evaluating Commission is in favor of reducing metrics that must be tracked by Avista of which can be found elsewhere.

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).

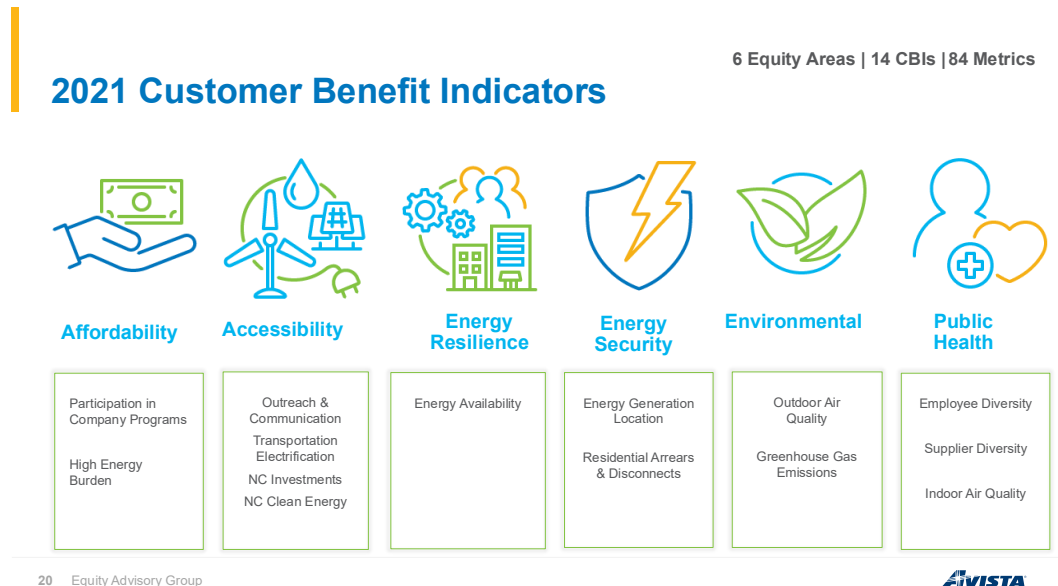
In many cases, **metrics were removed because the same information can be found in other reporting required by the Commission**, such as information reported as part of Customer Benefit Indicators or were already incorporated into other required PBR metrics. The Commission also authorized the removal 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.

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The CBIs on slide 20 below represent Avista’s current CBIs as approved in its 2021 CEIP. They include 6 equity areas, 14 CBIs, and 84 individual metrics.



Slide 21 provides a summary of the 2021 CBIs and the proposed 2025 CBI updates. Moving from 84 to 54 metrics:

- 29 metrics would have no change
- 7 metrics would be modified
- 46 metrics would be removed
- 18 new metrics would be added

2025 CEIP CBI Metric Change Summary

| 2021 CEIP CBIs/Metrics | 2025 Proposed CBIs/Metrics |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 Equity Areas 14 CBIs 84 Metrics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 Equity Areas 13 CBIs (combine NC Clean Energy & NC Investments) 54 Metrics <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Retain 2021 Metric No Change – 29 ▪ Retain 2021 Metric Modification – 7 ▪ Remove 2021 Metric – 46 ▪ Add New 2025 Metric – 18 <div style="margin-left: 10px; font-size: 3em;">}</div> <div style="margin-left: 10px;">Focus</div> </div> </div> |

21 Equity Advisory Group **AVISTA**

The CBI metrics provided on slides 22 and 23 focus on Financial Energy Assistance and Energy Efficiency programs.

- Blue “X” represents metric that is available in existing reporting, but wants to remove from the CBIs.
- Red “X” represents a metric that is not available in existing reporting and wants to remove from the CBIs.

Affordability Metrics

| CBI | 2021 Metrics 8 | 2025 Proposed Metrics 6 |
|---|--|---|
| 1. Participation in Company Programs | <p>Participation in weatherization & energy assistance programs All & NC 4</p> <p><i>Condition 17:</i> NC residential rebates* and those in rental units 2 X</p> <p>Saturation of energy assistance programs All & NC 2</p> <p><small>*NC residential rebates reported in ACR/BCR</small></p> | <p>Retain 2021 metrics 4</p> <p>Retain 2021 metrics 2</p> |

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Slide 23 below outlines the metrics Energy Burden (of electric/natural gas costs) is calculated against Gross income. Title of CBI would become Energy Burden. Metrics for Energy Burden CBI would be reduced to six from 16.

Affordability Metrics

| CBI | 2021 Metrics 16 | 2025 Proposed Metrics 6 |
|--|---|---|
| 2. Households with Energy Burden (>6%) | <p><i>Condition 18:</i> Number & percentage of households by All, NC & KLI* 6 X</p> <p><i>Condition 38:</i> High energy burden by census tract, highest/lowest median NC, KLI, over 65, homes built before 1980, owner/renter status 7 X</p> <p>Average excess burden by All, NC, KLI* 3 X</p> <p><small>*Reported in the Low-Income Rate Assistance Program</small></p> | <p>PBR: Average energy burden after energy assistance** by census tract for All & NC 2</p> <p>PBR: Number & percentage of high energy burden after energy assistance** for All & NC 4</p> <p><small>**Direct financial assistance for utility bills</small></p> |

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Avista is not proposing any changes to its Methods and Modes of Outreach CBI provided on slide 24 below but is proposing to shorten the name of the CBI from Accessibility of Methods and Modes of Outreach and Communication to Outreach and Communication. These metrics help Avista understand outreach and its impact.

Accessibility Metrics

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

X Available in required reporting
X Not available in required reporting

2025 Proposed Metrics | 4

Retain 2021 metric | 1

Retain 2021 metric | 1

Retain 2021 metric | 1

Retain 2021 metric | 1

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Slide 25 provides our CBIs relating to its transportation electrification efforts. We want to keep all of the existing metrics for this CBI with a modification to one. Avista tracks the number of charging stations, specifically in Named Communities and wants to remove the word “public” to track all charging stations for all community members.

Accessibility Metrics

CBI 2021 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

X Available in required reporting
X Not available in required reporting

2025 Proposed Metrics | 3

Retain 2021 metric | 1

Retain 2021 metric | 1

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

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- **Member:** Is there an overall plan for how transportation electrification will be encouraged in rural areas?
- **Avista:** Yes. There is a report that Avista files detailing this plan. Avista would like to measure all charging stations available to all customers. Avista’s Transportation Electrification Plan can be found here: <https://www.myavista.com/-/media/myavista/content-documents/energy-savings/avista-tep-final.pdf>

The accessibility metrics provided on slide 26 below indicate all energy resources in Named Communities and how Avista is investing in them. The proposal on slide 26 is to utilize the PBR metric in place of the exiting CBI as the information in the PBR is a more thorough measurement. Replacing three metrics with 12 metrics.

| Accessibility Metrics | | |
|--|---|--|
| CBI 2021 Metrics 3 | | |
| 5. Named Community Clean Energy Investments in Named Communities | <i>Condition 26:</i> Total MWh of distributed energy resources 5 MW and under in NC 1 | X |
| | <i>Condition 26:</i> Total MWh of energy storage 5 MW and under in NC 1 | X |
| | <i>Condition 26:</i> Number of distributed renewable energy resources and energy storage resources in NC 1 | X |
| | | X Available in required reporting X Not available in required reporting |
| 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 | | |

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Slide 27 provides the CBIs and metrics for Avista’s Named Community Investment Fund (NCIF). The NCIF provides an annual maximum budget of \$5 Million to be distributed. These metrics address who is benefiting from the investments and how much they receive. Avista wants to remove the indicated metric below as the information is already available as reported in Avista’s Energy Efficiency documentation. Learn more about NCIF and see examples here: [Named Community Investment Fund](#).

Accessibility Metrics

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/non-energy* benefits from investments (if applicable) | 3 **X**

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

X Available in required reporting
X Not available in required reporting

2025 Proposed Metrics | 2

Retain 2021 metric | 1

Retain 2021 metric | 1

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Slide 28 outlines Avista's CBIs relating to resiliency. The average duration without major events CBI relates to energy availability from the Company's perspective – efforts Avista makes to provide reliable power and less about a customer's resiliency. CEMI0 stands for Customer Experiencing Multiple Interruptions greater than zero. KLI stands for Known Low Income. Reserve margin speaks to a portion of the generation capacity that is available for the utility to use but chooses to retain or hold back usage, in the event of an unplanned outage or an increase in customer load.

Energy Resiliency Metrics

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

X Available in required reporting
X Not available in required reporting

2025 Proposed Metrics | 6

Retain 2021 metrics | 2

Modify 2021 metric
Reserve margin for winter/summer | 2

Retain 2021 metrics | 2

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- **Member:** Condition 38 is too detailed.
- **Avista:** Yes. There is a lot of information required.

Slide 29 below discusses Avista Energy Security metrics. We are proposing to retain the existing Generation Location metric and remove the arrears portion of the Arrears & Disconnections for Nonpayment metric. Avista currently reports arrearages (how far a customer is behind on paying their bill) in Docket-U200281. The Company proposes a modification to the disconnection portion of this metric to include percentage of all customers including those in Named Community and all. The percentage of disconnections is more representative of data compared to the number of disconnects. Avista's intent is to not disconnect customers but make every path possible to avoid disconnection.

| Energy Security Metrics | | |
|--|--|--|
| CBI 2021 Metrics 17 | | |
| 8. Energy Generation Location | Percent of generation located in WA or connected to Avista transmission 1 | |
| 9. Arrears & Disconnections for Nonpayment | Residential arrearages reported in Docket U-200281, U-210800 8 X | |
| | Condition 22: Number & percentage of disconnects for nonpayment by month census tract, All, KLL, 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 |

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Slide 30 outlines Avista's Environmental CBIs, and we currently have three metrics in its Outdoor Air Quality CBI. Avista would like to remove the decreased use of wood heat metric as the program is no longer offered by the Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency. Avista proposes to removal the Regional Green House Gas (GHG) emissions metric which was discussed in December 2024 with the EAG. This data is already available through the Department of Ecology. Avista proposes to modify the calculation for the CBI metric that measures Avista's GHG emissions to align with the Climate Commitment Act (CCA) calculations already being reported.

Environmental Metrics

CBIs 2021 Metrics | 8

10. Outdoor Air Quality

Weighted average days exceeding healthy levels* | 1 **X**

Avista plant air emissions | 4

Decreased use of wood heat for home heating | 1 **X**

11. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Regional GHG emissions* | 1 **X**

Avista GHG emissions | 1

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

X Available in required reporting
X Not available in required reporting

2025 Proposed Metrics | 5

Retain 2021 metric | 4

Modify 2021 metric adopt CCA calculation
Avista GHG emissions | 1

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AVISTA

- **Member:** Agrees with efficiency of reporting and supports this change.

Slide 31 below provides Avista's Public Health CBIs and we are not proposing any changes to our existing Employee Diversity, Supplier Diversity, and Indoor Air Quality metrics.

Public Health Metrics

CBIs 2021 Metrics | 6

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

X Available in required reporting
X Not available in required reporting

2025 Proposed Metrics | 6

Retain 2021 metrics | 1

Retain 2021 metrics | 1

Retain 2021 metrics | 2

Retain 2021 metrics | 2

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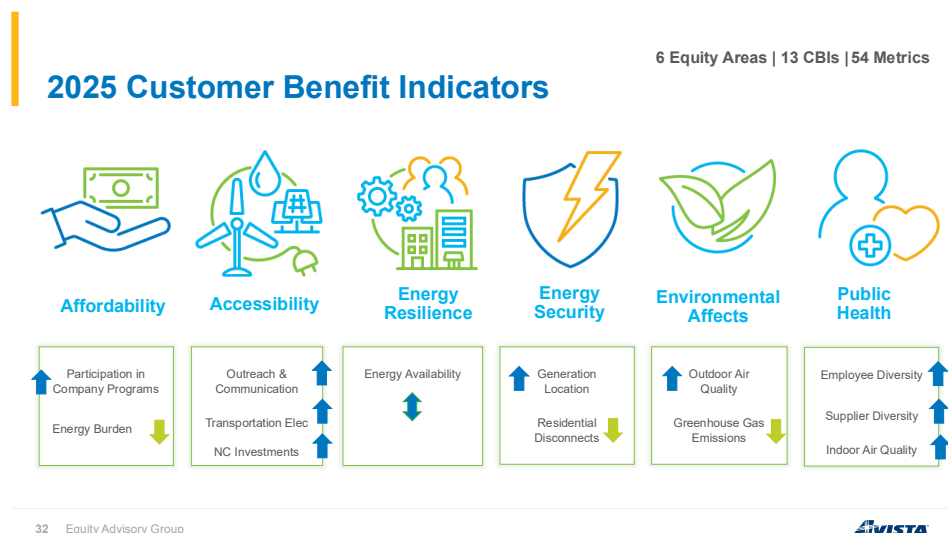
AVISTA

- **Member:** Is Avista using OMWBE (Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises) list to determine supplier diversity? If you limit recognition to this list, you will limit understanding of diversity in this region. State OMWBE certifies companies as minority or women owned, but not all companies eligible participate particularly in Eastern WA. On the other hand, (member) is aware there are companies that play games with the certification in the area of construction

contractors. Administrative burdens are huge barriers for small businesses, and rural areas are full of small businesses.

- **Avista:** Avista will investigate this question and get back to the EAG members.

Slide 32 illustrates Avista's proposed 2025 CBIs and the arrows indicate directionality, meaning the desired direction of the metric. Energy Availability has arrows in both directions because one metric is trying to reduce duration and frequency of outages, the other is maintaining the reserve margin.



V. Questions and Discussion

Reviewed the questions outlined on slide 34 to help facilitate deep discussions with EAG members.

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?

Slide 34:

- **Member:** Does Avista track if a household uses alternative energy sources, are there potential dangers of individuals not informing Avista?
- **Avista:** If the customer has solar and wants a net metering agreement, then Avista tracks those accounts. However, if the person's alternative energy is diesel or propane generation, Avista would not be aware of that or need to be aware of that.
- **Avista:** We should take this topic as an action and get back with you about how Avista is notified of alternative energy sources, if there are any potential dangers if Avista isn't aware.
- **Facilitator:** What disparities or root burdens should Avista be aware of.
- **Member:** Avista should be aware of the administrative burden issue relates to many small businesses. Knowing what's available is also a barrier.
- **Avista:** How do we share this CBI information with a customer who may be seeing it for the first time?
- **Member:** There is a slide with indicating arrow and the six main community Benefit indicators; focus on this slide.
- **Member:** How do you get to the person who gets the bill and the person who uses the power when they are different.
- **Avista:** Avista corresponds with the person attached to the account. They are considered the "Authorized User". It is a challenge
- **Member:** What is the incentive for the person not paying the bill?
- **Member:** Is there a way for those who have accounts directly to get an incentive to speak directly with Avista, so that feedback
- **Avista:** This is something to consider.
- **Facilitator:** When Avista says that it is indicating that it is tracking information on Named Communities.
- **Avista:** It is largely aggregated. This is separate information that Avista purchases from a third party.
- **Action:** How could Avista get people interested in energy savings when dealing with a renter or the population that does not receive the bill directly.

VI. Your Support Team and Next Meeting

- Next EAG meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, May 21st and Friday, May 23rd.
- Please sign up for our quarterly newsletter if you have not already and we hope to see you all next month.
- Provide any additional comments or feedback to us at ceta@avistacorp.com

Actions recorded during meeting

- **Action:** Avista will clarify if they are using OMWBE list to determine supplier diversity.

- **Action:** Avista to share the net metering process and the potential safety concerns with customers who are not or do report their own energy production.
- **Action:** Avista to share information about reaching customers who are hearing impaired.