

**Equity Advisory Group –
Equity Lens Session**

Meeting Date: November 18, 2022
 Time: 7:30am – 9:00am
 Location: Zoom Meeting

Attendees:

Facilitator:	EAG Members:
Amber Lenhart	Brook Beeler
Avista:	Larry Mattson
Tamara Bradley	Margee Chambers
Kelly Dengel	Alexandra Swenson
Annette Brandon	Carmen Groom
Amanda Ghering	
Renee Coelho	
Darrell Soyars	
	Guests:

Agenda

- I. Welcome & Introductions
 - Overview of Meeting: Rules and Intent
- II. CEIP Condition #10
- III. CEIP Condition #2
- IV. Named Communities Investment Fund
Prioritization Tool
- V. Your Support Team and Next Meeting

Facilitator

Amber Lenhart

 Tamara Bradley
 Annette Brandon
 Amber Lenhart

 Amber Lenhart

Meeting Notes

Welcome & Introductions

Introductions and Meeting Rules and Intent and review of today’s agenda.

Condition 10

Briefly discussed the 38 conditions of the CEIP.

Condition 10, select one specific action that will support a specific named community and be tracked at the granularity of that specific named community. We discussed 8 projects last month and discussed with Avista’s Energy Assistance Advisory Group. We looked at the scope of the project, how large, what is the impact to the customers, how long will it take to stand up and what is the cost. The projects selected at this time are the backup battery for those customers with lifesaving medical equipment within their home. We also

are looking at providing cooling systems for those homes without a cooling system located in a specific named community which is still to be determined.

How are these projects landing with the EAG? Several thumbs up provided from EAG members.

Member: What does one of those units' cost?

Member: I agree this is a good idea, I heard you say that we are not sure on what the lifetime of the battery is, and I would be interested to see the answer to that. I would also like to see the support for the customers who receive them and that they receive training on how to use it.

Member: Can the utility supplement the cost of operation as well? Who would be responsible for install?

Company: The pilot will help answer some of these questions, so great thoughts, we will keep the EAG and EAAG up to date on how the outcomes. We must figure out price, distribution etc., and if it was positively impactful for the customers.

Member: I support, I would like to see community solar as well, but fully support this option.

[CEIP Condition 2](#)

Resources are our wind farms, or hydro dams, or the way we are serving the load. There are supply side resources or demand side resources, so resources are the supply and demand are reducing the usage. in the 20-year plan, integrated resource plan, we included our clean energy action plan which is a 10-year action plan on how we will meet clean energy goals and the CEIP is the 4-year action plan. We started with the clean energy action plan which was filed in April 2021, and we also implemented our public participation plan where we identified and developed customer benefit indicators. We need to ensure that the CBIS are part of our resource selection and then we will make sure they are incorporated in our request for proposal process.

We developed 14 CBIs that will provide the utility with accountability to our clean energy goals and ensure that we do not promote any systemic inequities along the way.

Energy impacts are the power being delivered to your home, or programs like energy efficiency, or demand response. A Non-energy impacts would be Avista quantified through a 3rd party, directly or indirectly tied to various CBIs, improved air quality, health, property value etc., How can we link CBIs with resource selection, which ones are energy impacts and which ones are non-energy impacts. How are we going to take those items and quantify them within a plan? We will ask how granular the data is, how far in the future can we predict the data, is the data available or do we need to purchase the data and how often is the data updated, we want it to be current. And what do we do with those that cannot be measured.

Through the request for proposal process, we are working on those equity issues to ensure we are selecting companies that are also promoting equity at a fair cost to customers.

CBIs and Resource Selection: the items outlined in red, we can use within the resource selection process and those in black cannot be quantified within the resource selection process at this time. Those items not being used are equally important, but they do not

pertain to resource selection itself. Red are the ones we are including, black we are paying attention to during implementation not during resource planning, and the orange is something that we are not sure on how to use in a forward-looking process as we have not selected projects that will be supported by the named community's investment fund, we will know how to use those once projects are selected.

We can identify many projects that certain to the current CBIs and we can measure them and include in the forecasting such as Total MWh of DER with 5MW and under where CAIDI, the number of customer outages, we cannot forecast and include in a resource selection. We are including an equity lens within our resource selection.

Some items we cannot include as they are too granular for a 20-year look, we take the amount of energy savings for certain programs and that is included in the forecast, but not the number of customers as it is too granular, and we cannot forecast that for 20 years, but we do measure and track that. As you think about these items over the next few weeks, I would love your feedback and thoughts around if there is a way, we can incorporate some of these items within a 20 year look that we are not thinking about. So please reach out.

Member: I appreciate you bringing this back to the group to see how our feedback is being used, this was a great explanation and not too technical at all.

[Named Communities Investment Fund Prioritization Tool](#)

Projects that come from the EAG members with funding up to \$500,000 annually and must be energy efficiency related projects, or health or safety related projects that allow energy efficiency projects to take place. This tool will help the EAG members identify and prioritize projects.

Results Based Accountability (RBA): documented by Mark Friedman,

Key Principles: we work with the end and work backwards towards the means. What is the goal and what steps will we take to reach that goal?

Data driven, transparent decision making

Keeps it simple

Two types of accountabilities

Performance accountability – how well we are performing based

Population accountability – big scale outcomes

Five questions to get us from ends to means

1. How are we doing?

2. What is the story behind the curve? Asking why.

3. Who has a role to play? Who are the stakeholders or partners?

4. What works?

Evidence based, low cost/no cost, out of the box ideas, research/information.

5. What is our action plan?

We could start with Question 4; how do we turn the curve? And move our way through the projects. Also ensure we have the right people at the table. We can offer times outside of the meetings for brainstorming and within the sessions. We can bring the results back together so all members of the EAG meetings can see the results.

Prioritize: Leverage, feasibility, Specificity, Values

Three types of performance measures/defining success

Reviewed an actual product/program in Duwamish Valley, through the Duwamish River Clean-up Coalition

That is RBS in a nutshell, what are your thoughts, what is unclear or how do you feel about this approach?

Member: Awesome. Really valuable tool!

Member: I think the CBIs that we have could be some of the outcomes and could be a good matrix to brainstorm and choose projects.

Member: I like it and I am wondering how we would weave it into what we have done already? That way we do not need to do any re-work.

Facilitator: I have been thinking about that too and will work on that further.

Member: I appreciate that this model and tried and tested especially as a guide. The idea of creating our own without framework is daunting.

Facilitator: Does anyone have a different model that they have used or is there anything missing from this one?

Member: If we are going to convene as one big EAG group, which would be great, I imagine the different folks have already shared some EE ideas and maybe those ideas can already be captured so we are not starting with a blank slate. So, we are not brainstorming from nothing and capture the work that others have already done.

Wrap Up

Would members prefer to take the month of December off from EAG meetings to refresh? All members stated they are okay with meeting in December.

Member: Sounds like we have a lot of work to do, so I would suggest that we keep that December meeting.

Member: I am good with December

Member: Agree, let's meet

Member: Thumbs up on meeting in December

Reminder of upcoming meetings on December 14th and 16th

Thank you, Renee Coelho, for everything you have done with the EAG and Avista, enjoy your retirement!