

**Equity Advisory Group –  
Equity Lens Session**

Meeting Date: July 22, 2022  
 Time: 7:30am – 9:00am  
 Location: Zoom Meeting

**Attendees:**

<b>Facilitator:</b>	<b>EAG Members:</b>
<i>Amber Lenhart</i>	<i>Vanessa Strange</i>
<b>Avista:</b>	<i>Tami Dillon</i>
<i>Tamara Bradley</i>	<i>Will von Bracht</i>
<i>Renee Coelho</i>	<i>Michelle Bennington</i>
<i>Kelly Dengel</i>	<i>Connie Kliewer</i>
<i>Darrell Soyers</i>	<i>Brook Beeler</i>
	<i>Margee Chambers</i>
	<b>Guests:</b>
	<i>Shay Bauman – Public Counsel</i>

**Agenda**

- I. Welcome & Introductions
  - Overview of Meeting: Rules and Intent
- II. EAG Member Spotlight
- CEIP Timeline
- III. CEIP Conditions
- IV. EAG Schedule Check-In
- V. Your Support Team and Next Meeting

**Facilitator**

Amber Lenhart  
 Amber Lenhart  
 Amber Lenhart  
 Tamara Bradley  
 Tamara Bradley  
 Amber Lenhart  
 Amber Lenhart

**Meeting Notes**

**EAG Member Spotlight**

Featured Clyde Abrahamson, Special Projects Manager for the Spokane Indian Housing Authority.

**CEIP Timeline**

Public participation process was essential to approval of Avista’s CEIP, you helped us identify barriers and benefits to participation, .....  
 Plan was approved on June 16<sup>th</sup>. We file in October 2021, UTC Staff, Avista and interested stakeholders had an opportunity to submit comments, many meetings to draft conditions. We will be reviewing some of those conditions in this meeting today.

**CEIP Conditions**

Avista agreed to 38 different Conditions ranging through a broad spectrum that covers our Clean energy implementation Plan. We will discuss the areas that involve the EAG specially. We will have more meetings to dive further into these so today will be a high-level overview.

**Condition #10:** Avista agreed to identify with its EAG and EAAG one specific action that will serve named communities to be funded by the named communities fund. Detailed overview of the \$5 Million Named Communities Investment Fund.

\$2 million dollars will be allocated for energy efficiency benefits to Community Identified projects, renters/multi family homes, single family homes, mobile homes, and community organizations. We will also be looking to you all to help identify how we allocate the last \$500,000 which is available for residential and business customers within named communities.

**Member:** We are talking about related projects or health and safety of repairs that enables an energy efficient home, my question is back to natural gas, but if we are not measuring methane emissions from either homes, residential areas, methane plants and things like that, how can we measure that health impact? The health impact is about a low line gas, it is not being measured and has increases in asthma and things like that, so how are we going to do that if we are not measuring the emission that come from gas and leaks in homes and things like that.

**Company:** We appreciate your thoughts and your insights; we do have another condition around indoor air quality and maybe we can discuss that during that condition review. CETA is specific to electric customers, but internally we do have metrics around gas, Darrell do you have any insight?

**Company:** We have long standing programs around leaks of the gas that is being delivered to customers and to Michelle's other points, methane gas we are doing quite a bit of supply chain work on the natural gas side and where the gas comes to the pipeline at our city gates, how are the suppliers that we worth operating and ensuring they are not having leaks of methane gas etc.

**Member:** So, in other words we are at the beginning of the process of trying to deal with not only leaks but plants that emit methane into the environment? Is that what I am hearing?

**Company:** We have well established guidelines in place for leaks, but we are also working on the plants, this is a work in progress, and I am sure it is not the clearest answer, but we are constantly looking at ensure the overall health of our customers.

**Condition #23:** Avista must present and discuss any joint advocate CBI with its advisory groups, customers, and interested stakeholders. The 13 CBIs that you all helped develop, there was an additional list that advocates wanted us to include in our plan. We asked for time to review and discuss the additional CBIs with our EAG members and customers to ensure they went through the public participation process. So, we will go through all of these in a separate meeting with our three main advisory groups. We now have 14 CBIs with the addition of the residential disconnections and arrears CBI. At Avista, we want our plan to improve each year, we only had 5 months to create our first plan, so now that we have a little more time, we can continue these discussions and improve.

**Member:** This information that we are getting, it is a lot! If you do not work with Avista, could I suggest that in September that we go through some of this again, because I was reading this yesterday and I was overwhelmed, totally overwhelmed. Can we break it down in a different kind of format where I can absorb it better? Just a suggestion that I have.

**Company:** The plan is today, to just introduce to you the 4 specific conditions where the EAG must be involved. This is just an overview and internally we also have felt overwhelmed, so I understand. In the future, we will start going through each condition and break them down in their own separate meeting.

**Condition #24:** Avista must engage with its EAG, EEAG, EAAG to create a metric for indoor air quality and what should we measure, what should we be looking at? How might we measure this CBI. We will spend a lot of time just discussing this condition.

**Condition #38:** Avista must choose at least 2 of its CBIs which it will track for 5 subsets of names communities to be developed with its EAG.

This portion of the meeting was really intended to give you a high-level overview of the conditions that include the EAG. You are all helping to shape and influence our plan and we need you all to help us to continue in making our plan successful and help our customers benefit from this transition.

### [EAG Schedule Check-In](#)

We had a conversation in the spring about potentially taking a month off in the summer and having a meeting in person in the fall. So, we want to check in and see how everyone is feeling about that and if everyone is still interested in that? We will send out an email after this meeting where you are able to vote as well.

### [Wrap Up](#)

Next meetings will be August 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>