

PacifiCorp Equity Advisory Group (EAG)

July 2022 Meeting Notes

Wednesday July 13, 2022, 1-4pm Pacific Time

These notes were synthesized and summarized by RMI, PacifiCorp's meeting facilitation partner, without EAG member attribution.

Executive Summary

This meeting focused on EAG reactions to PacifiCorp's Energy Efficiency Customer Benefit Indicator metrics and progress and strategies for connecting a school program on energy efficiency to energy savings for parents. PacifiCorp shared updates on their facilitation partner, Time of Use rate materials, and planned community connections at public events.

Responses to questions and comments that did not get addressed during Meeting #5 or where PacifiCorp felt that greater detail was needed are highlighted throughout the document in purple.

Session Objectives

- Introduce EAG members to the Be Wattsmart, Begin at home education program in schools
- Facilitate community connections by discussing upcoming community events
- Update EAG members on the progress of energy efficiency customer benefit indicators and other CEIP goals
- Further refine customer benefit indicator tracking and measurement with EAG feedback for 2023
- Introduce the EAG to E-Source, PacifiCorp's new EAG facilitator

Slides available here: [English](#) [Español](#)

2022 Equity Advisory Group member	Organization
Adam Rieker	Perry Technical Institute
Angélica Reyes	La Casa Hogar
Sylvia Schaeffer	Blue Mountain Action Council (BMAC)
Norman Thiel	SonBridge
Paul Tabayoyon	Asian Pacific Islander Coalition (APIC)
Giovanni Severino	Latino Community Fund
Raymond Wiseman	Yakama Power
Jonathan Smith	Yakima County Development Association (YCDA)
Nathan Johnson	Yakima Health District
Erendira Cruz	Sustainable Living Center (SLC)
Not In Attendance	
Isidra Sanchez	Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC)
Heidi Silva-Morales	
Noemi Ortiz	Northwest Community Action Center (NCAC)

Opening (1:05pm)

PacifiCorp shared meeting objectives and the agenda to start the meeting

EAG Member Check-In (1:10pm)

All EAG members “checked-in” by responding to the prompt: *What do you track (or want to track) in your work or life to help you meet your goals?* Themes in their responses included tracking interpersonal community connections, program work, personal health and well-being, effectiveness of emergency response, number of volunteers and visits, economic data, services provided, and data related to electricity. Some EAG members shared more qualitative aspects of their work which are harder to track with numbers.

Community Connections (1:17pm)

Following the check in, PacifiCorp introduced a new recurring segment for EAG meetings, Community Connections. PacifiCorp plans to use this time to share information on PacifiCorp, EAG members, Community upcoming events/outreach, and to provide space for EAG members to connect with and support one another. EAG members responded positively to this inclusion, recommended involving PacifiCorp employees that work throughout the state in surfacing events, and shared community events that are happening in the next 2-3 months.

EAG Member Presentation (1:35pm)

An EAG member presented on his work with the Latino Community Fund. Latino Community Fund of Washington identifies, shares and advocates for what is working in the Latino community, aimed at creating healthy and educated Latino families and building vibrant local communities and economies in Washington State. Latino Community fund works in civic engagement and advocacy, technological education, youth leadership, environmental justice and philanthropy.

Wattsmart School Education Program (1:45pm)

PacifiCorp next introduced a speaker from the National Energy Foundation (NEF) to present on the Wattsmart School Education program. The presentation included an abridged version of the presentation given to students, as well as some background to the program. Following this, PacifiCorp shared some communication materials used with the program.

Questions on the presentation included:

- Q: Curious as to the duration of the program, minimum number of classrooms to qualify?
 - A: NEF has to reach 47 schools and the presentation is for 4th grade students. NEF serves schools regardless of how many students are in the 4th grade class(es). There are 50 minutes of content in the program, but teachers are asked to provide for an hour total.
- Q: If a school has signed up, is it the teacher’s class or will all 4th graders participate?
 - A: NEF tries to get the entire 4th grade in a given school.

- Q: What is the content of the program, and what is the focus on current vs future sources of electricity?
 - A: NEF tries to give a background of both renewable and non-renewable sources, but notes that the goal is to use renewable energy over time. See slides for additional detail on curriculum content.
- Q: How do you go about asking schools if they want to participate?
 - A: There are 81 schools on the qualified list, they are qualified based on location in service territory. They reach out by email, flag that the program is free and available, provide everything for the program except the room and the screen, then send postcards. When they reach the 47 schools in the contract, then they can no longer open the program to others.
- Q: does registration open before the school year starts? Is there opening for summer programs in the communities?
 - A: There is not currently a summer program. Open enrollment starts around Labor Day; NEF tries to reach teachers during the week or two where they're doing prep but don't have students in the classroom yet.
- Q: Why does the program focus on the 4th grade?
 - A: It matches the Washington state curriculum, which helps to open the door to teachers
- Q: How did they come to the decision of paying teachers only \$25-50 for participation?
 - A: They came up with that based on a way to do as many schools as possible in this budget, based on the contract with Pacific Power. PacifiCorp Could increase that amount – the question is then how much does everyone want to spend from ratepayer funds, and it would be based on Commission and stakeholder approval. Even with no incentive, we find that teachers love the program.
- Q: How valuable is this program in terms of energy savings? How does it compare to rebates for appliances?
 - A: It is hard to measure, PacifiCorp doesn't calculate avoided cost due to this program in particular

After the presentation, the EAG was asked to respond to the following prompt: *How can this program best allow the students to pass on what they learned to their parents?* Themes from the discussion included:

- It is important for parents to know about the programs
- Opportunities to earn swag for parent participation
- Send a letter home to parents
- Send emails to parents
- Be clear about the impact in terms of money
- Video Games motivate kids, but in some areas other things may be better motivators
- Tell kids that educating their family will get them saved energy
- Energy efficiency is cheaper than new generation

The registration is open now, and there currently are 29 schools registered for this fall. PacifiCorp will be sending additional promotional emails and postcards out in August. Teachers can register by going to this link <https://registration.nef1.org/program/371>

Break (2:55pm)

Energy Efficiency (EE) Customer Benefit Indicators (CBI) Update (2:50pm)

PacifiCorp continued the EAG's conversation on Energy Efficiency and customer benefit indicators. First, they provided an overview of the Clean Energy Implementation Plan and CBIs to show the EAG how they are tracking progress and what outcomes they hope to achieve. Specifically, they showed progress in total and in Highly Impacted Communities (HICs) which are defined by state regulation and are based on health disparity, income and tribal lands. PacifiCorp then shared some indicators of their progress in program roll out for 2020 and 2022 year-to-date.

An EAG member asked the following questions:

- Q: Why not compare to 2019 data? 2020 was a COVID-19 year where many of the businesses were shut down in Highly Impacted Communities, and households were told to shelter in place. This seems that it would skew your data.
 - A: For the CEIP, PacifiCorp was focused on building out the data needed to create the CBI tables. Based on the timing of CETA, 2020 is the best starting point
- Q: Earlier said that PacifiCorp is tracking by census area. Any EE project that was done in a Highly Impacted Community census tract qualifies?
 - A: Yes
- Q: How does Pac plan to share data with the state? Does Pac work with other energy providers to ensure data is uniform?
 - A: PacifiCorp tried to share the most granular information they had. Additionally, each utility developed its own CBI metric, so reporting will not be uniform. The Energy Independence Act requires Pacific Power to file reports with the Washington State Department of Commerce using a uniform format in addition to the reports filed with the WUTC.

The EAG was asked to respond to the following prompt: Based on what you've heard so far, what reactions do you have to PacifiCorp's efforts to implement and track equitable energy efficiency deployment? What adjustments would you recommend for 2023 and beyond? Themes from the discussion included:

- There's good progress for all categories besides business
- It's great to see traction in small and medium businesses, but worth investigating why large businesses are seeing slower progress
- While the reservation census tract may be a Highly Impacted Community, there are people living there in mansions who are getting the benefit of these programs and funding while in the same community, a small multifamily home may not be able to participate. Having data that is more granular than the census tract level is key to accurately targeting highly impacted communities.

- PacifiCorp responded, noting they are tracking rented vs owned, primary language other than English, and single vs multifamily home.
- There are a lot of private information statements, but this work involves a public good
- It is important to ensure equal access and results across communities and utility service territories
- PacifiCorp should tie metrics to meters to get more detailed information on property ownership to get a sense of who is being supported; without this the Yakima tribe would likely object to this data showing progress in their community, as it is skewed

Responding to a request from an EAG member to narrow down numbers representing progress made in HICs, PacifiCorp offered to show HIC based on tribal lands separately from participants, which the EAG responded positively to.

Updates (3:40 pm)

PacifiCorp shared the Time of Use handout they have developed to promote their upcoming Time of Use Program.

The EAG was then introduced to E-Source, who will be taking over RMI's role of facilitating the EAG meeting with PacifiCorp. The E-Source team includes Lisa Markus, Ben Nathan, Jeffrey Daigle, and Tag Galvin-Darnieder.

Public Comment (3:55pm)

There was no public comment.

Closeout and Next Steps (3:57 pm)

PacifiCorp closed by thanking all the EAG for their time and detailed feedback, and they are excited to further community connections in the future.

Attendees were reminded that meeting materials and notes are posted to the website, and that the next meeting is on September 14 from 1-4 pm PT.