



## Clean Energy Planning Engagement Series for Oregon Tribal Nations

June 2024 Meeting Notes

June 28, 2024, 9:00 – 11:00 am, Pacific Time

*These notes were synthesized and summarized by E Source, Pacific Power’s meeting facilitation partner.*

### Executive Summary

There were 15 individuals in attendance at the Clean Energy Planning Engagement Series for the Oregon Tribal Nations meeting on June 28, 2024. The meeting was hosted in a virtual setting with attendees joining via the ZOOM platform.

The following is a summary of the content and feedback received during the 2-hour public meeting.

TIME	AGENDA
9:00am	Check In
9:10am	Closing the Loop
9:20am	Community Benefit Indicators Activity Feedback Review
9:40am	Integrated Resource Planning Updates
10:00am	Biennial Report Community Story
10:30am	Final Thoughts
10:45am	Next Steps

Attendee	Organization
<b>Attendees</b>	
Alma Pinto	Northwest Energy Coalition
Amber Faist	Northwest Native Chamber
Andrew Croy	Strategic Energy Group

Brian Boswell	Umpqua Indian Utility Cooperative
Mike Lofting	Warm Springs Power and Enterprise
<b>Presenters</b>	
Christina Medina	Manager, Stakeholder Policy & Engagement, Pacific Power
Kimberly Alejandro	Equity Advisory Analyst, Pacific Power
Omar Granados	Senior Communications Representative
Randy Baker	Director of Resource Planning
Tracy Moreland	Tribal Liaison Representative, Pacific Power
Jeffrey Daigle	Facilitator, E Source
Morgan Westberry	Facilitator, E Source
<b>Pacific Power Affiliated Attendees</b>	
Jennifer Senner	Grant Program Manager, Pacific Power
Tag Galvin-Darnieder	E Source, Facilitation Team
Zanya Morgan	E Source, Facilitation Team

## Meeting Notes

### Opening

Pacific Power's Christina Medina welcomed participants to the June Clean Energy Planning Tribal Nations Engagement. Pacific Power is seeking to offer a space for meaningful dialogue and an opportunity to help offer lens on the work that is happening at the utility, as well as anywhere consultation can help to influence that work. Morgan Westberry, from the E Source facilitation team, then opened the meeting by reviewing the agenda, introducing presenters, and sharing meeting experience items. The information presented in the meeting will be posted online as a resource. More feedback and questions can also be sent to the engagement team offline.

### Check In

E Source's Morgan Westberry facilitated the check in question: *What memory brings you the most joy?* Below are a few responses.

- Joyous memories are those with his mother, cooking fish cakes together. The scent triggers that memory
- Favorite memories are from when his children were little, installed 2 swing sets in the living room – missing the youthfulness about his children as they reach adulthood
- Camping and fishing near the Columbia River with family
- Daughter graduating from high school – prompted memories of kindergarten graduation and memories with their own parents
- Summer days and nights spent at Lake Oroville
- Taking his 22-month-old daughter to the coast for the first time

### Closing the Loop

Morgan Westberry recapped the last meeting, including:

- Completing the Community Benefit Indicator activity to identify impacted Tribal groups and challenges meeting Tribal needs
- Discovering recently implemented wildfire operational practices and understanding strategic programs forthcoming through 2027

### Community Benefit Indicators (CBIs) Activity Feedback

Jeffrey Daigle, E Source Facilitator, reviewed the Community Benefit Indicators (CBIs) discussion activity feedback from last month’s meeting. CBIs are a component of the Clean Energy Plan as a part of House Bill 2021, which directed utilities to transition to 100% clean energy by 2040 and achieve equitable distribution of the costs and benefits of the transition. CBIs should reflect the outcomes the utility can influence while metrics are measurable phenomena related to the CBI that can be monitored over time to assess progress toward the CBI. During the activity, members were asked to provide a list of membership needs in Tribal communities and identify the challenges members face in trying to meet those needs and which Tribal member populations face these challenges?

Members answered:

- Are certain communities’ members at high risk?
- Where are community members located?
- Do any community members have specific needs?
- How is information sent to community members?

The following challenges to meeting tribal member needs were provided by members of the Tribal Engagement space present at the May 2024 meeting.

#### Breakout Group A

Impacted Tribal Members & Groups	Challenges to Meeting Tribal Member Needs
All Tribal Members	High bills; high energy burdens; can encounter some difficulty working with the utility
Tribal Businesses	Limited capital; limited resources; does not always have the capacity to navigate resources
Businesses Located in Remote Areas	Remote locations have more outages; may have more extended outages; getting communications into remote areas during extended outages
Tribal Services Groups	Capacity in the organization; can encounter some difficulties working with the utility

#### Breakout Group B

Impacted Tribal Members & Groups	Challenges to Meeting Tribal Member Needs
All Tribal Members	Energy programs may reduce power but does not reduce costs

<b>Tribal elders and other vulnerable populations</b>	Finding contractors to come to reservations is hard, meaning it is not going to work. Could be beneficial to be larger scale/reservation wide; many Elders lived on a fixed income that can make rate increases or other financial changes difficult to manage
<b>Agriculture</b>	Reservations (or other disadvantaged communities) do not have the opportunities because of locations (i.e., jobs) Programs must be utility led  On reservation programs are not equitable to members living off reservations

The goals from the activity feedback includes:

- Increasing collaboration with Tribal groups to expand resources and access
- Bringing more utility led programs to Tribal members (on and off reservations)
- Brainstorming methodology to reduce energy costs alongside reducing power
- Recognizing specific Tribal needs to better communication
- Focusing on high-risk groups (i.e., Tribal elder, low-income families, business owners, agricultural workers)

Pacific Power is developing metrics with input from OPUC staff, tribal communities, other interested parties through OPUC workshops, and the Community Benefits and Impacts Advisory Group (CBIAG). A key aspect of the CBI framework is that it is intended to be adapted overtime, it is a living document with room for improvement.

The current CBI framework is graphed below.

CBI Topic Area	CBI (Outcomes)	Metrics
1) Resilience	a) Improve Resiliency of Vulnerable Communities During Energy Outages	SAIDI, SAIFI, CAIDI at area level including major events
	b) Reduce Frequency and Duration of Energy Outages	Energy Not Served (ENS) for IRP portfolios are included as an output from portfolio development
2) Community Health & Well-being	a) Decrease Residential Disconnections	Number of residential disconnections by census tract
3) Environment	a) Increase Energy from Non-emitting Resources and Reduce CO2e Emissions	Oregon GHG emissions (from Oregon-allocated resources)
		Oregon allocated renewables
4) Energy Equity	a) Decrease Proportion of Households Experiencing High Energy Burden	Average Energy burden by census tract, for low-income customers, bill assistance participants, Tribal members and for all customers
	b) Increase Efficiency of Housing and Small Businesses in Disadvantaged Areas*	TBD
5) Economic	a) Increase Community-Focused Efforts and Investments	Headcount of DSM program delivery staff & grants
		Public charging stations
		Pre-apprenticeship / educational program participation
	b) Reduce Barriers for Disadvantaged Communities for Company Program Participation*	Energy supply resource development - workforce and spend
		TBD

The left side includes topic areas where the company wants to have benefit indicators, the middle includes proposed outcomes related to the topic areas, and the right side are the metrics proposed.

SAIDI, SAIFI and CAIDI are reliability measures on the electric system to understand how Pacific Power is delivering reliability or resilience measures within tribal communities in rural areas and to understand the difference and steps the utility can take. Residential disconnects are another measure of community health and wellbeing that the company foresees being able to report over service areas. Mr. Daigle asked if the group is interested in being able to break out and understand what the difference looks like from a disconnection within a Tribal community or for a Tribal member versus other areas within the service territory.

**Meeting Discussion:**

- Tracy Moreland asked how the group is quantifying “agricultural” concerns? When tribes receive federal or state funding, they determine where most members are in relation to tribal offices and reservation lands. This is called the five or seven county service area. A growing concern is Tribal members that do not live close to the reservation being able to access Tribal programs and funding.
  - Jeffrey Daigle offered expansion, recalling from May’s meeting the birth of “agriculture” was an attempt to create a broader construct around a variety of experiences, but acknowledges that the word may not be fitting, and challenges may change as time passes and the work around CBIs develops. The group must continuously check in asking if the focus is accurate or does it need to be shifted.

- Umpqua Indian Utility Cooperative acknowledged the thoughtfulness in summarizing the groups identified Tribal challenges.
- Mr. Daigle asked if there are specific CBIs or measures PacifiCorp is not looking at that relate to the challenges and impacts of the Tribal communities?
  - Warm Springs Power and Enterprise raised a concern that Tribal government doesn't have personnel to run programs. There is a need for tribal associates on reservations are needed to step in and initiate the program available.
- Strategic Energy Group asked what are the other groups that are being served by the CBIs?
  - Mr. Daigle explained that CBIs measure specific actions the utility can take to improve the equitability of Clean Energy planning under HB2021. The CBIAG has contributed a significant amount of input into CBI development.
  - Christina Medina shared that the goal is to distribute equitable benefits to *all customers*, and the company recognizes that some community groups may be more vulnerable than others, so equal receipt of benefits will look different. PacifiCorp has programs across the state and works with Environmental Justice groups to determine how the company can have a positive impact on communities served. Learn more about the Justice 40 [here](#).
    - Strategic Energy Group has read and reviewed PacifiCorp's Clean Energy Plan and was impressed.
- Morgan Westberry reiterated that the Oregon Community Benefit and Impact Advisory Group (CBIAG) is another venue that is open to the public that always encourages additional voices and participation in those conversations for those that are interested or available to participate.

### Integrated Resource Planning (IRP)

Randy Baker, Director of Resource Planning, reviewed the IRP purpose to produce a plan on a regular cycle that forecasts the best strategy to generate energy and meet customer energy needs over the next 20 years. This plan is created with a combination of research, public engagement, and mathematical models. The IRP process for long-term planning has been long-established, but significant changes to long-term planning are ongoing with the plan being revisited every two years with an update in the off years. The primary focus is the customers who are structured directly into the modeling. For example, the primary method of comparing different possible plans for energy resources, PacifiCorp looks for the portfolio of resources that will allow the company to run the power grid at the least cost and the least risk for customers.

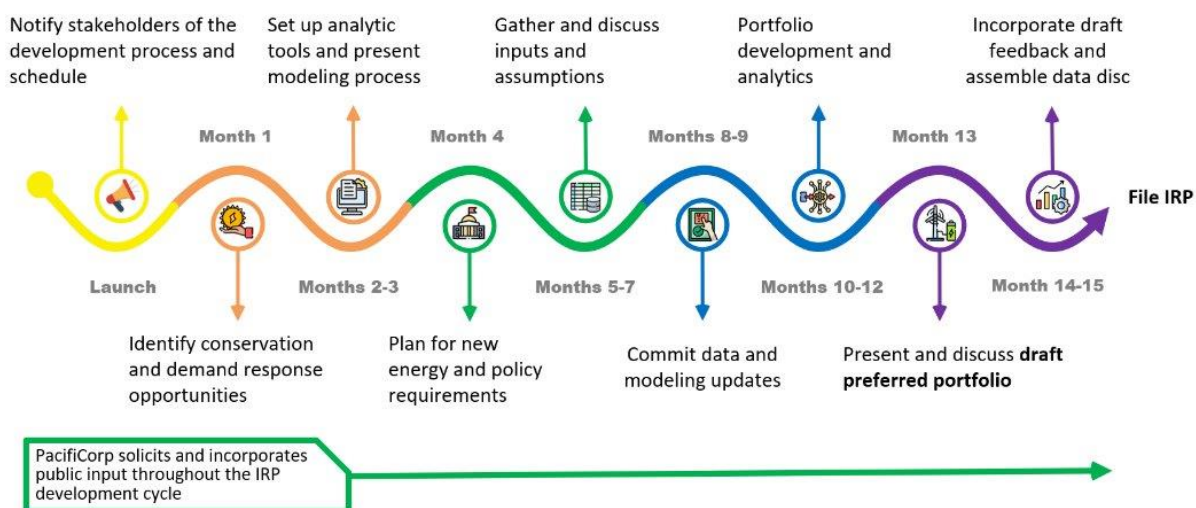
The goal in centering the customer is to:

- Increase transparency by minimizing assumptions and constraints
  - Public input meetings
- Close the gap between planning, implementation, and execution
- Developing models that are agnostic to technology such as wind, solar, storage, natural gas, etc.

The company strives to make sure the inputs and constraints to the models are correct so that the outcomes fairly represent the advantages and disadvantages of each technology. Some key factors are fuel and operating costs, reliability, state, and federal emissions standards, and how each resource aligns with customer needs across the PacifiCorp system.

To produce an IRP with a preferred portfolio for the whole system, the company must meet the milestones of all the states across PacifiCorp’s six-state territory by creating different kinds of portfolios to evaluate. One portfolio is for the entire PacifiCorp system without state requirements. Other portfolios incorporate specific state requirements, like the Oregon Clean Energy Plan. One objective is to make sure that all states are properly represented without colliding with other states’ interests. In this way PacifiCorp works to represent all customers while meeting restrictive state timing and federal requirements across the entire service territory.

The figure below shows the IRP development cycle, which occurs over roughly 15 months as part of a 2-year cycle. Please note that the steps are not weighted evenly, as different stages occupy more months than others and some phases overlap each other and once initiated last through the entire rest of the cycle.



The IRP cycle is 15 months with public engagement ongoing through a series of meetings and other communications. The 2025 IRP cycle launched in January, announcing the meeting schedule and setting up the first meeting held on January 25th in preparation for the filing due March 31, 2025. Currently, the process is in months 5-7 which aims to gather and discuss input and assumptions and determine modeling constraints. The team is planning for new energy and policy requirements. The next phase is to “commit data” occurring in months 8 and 9 of the cycle. This means that in September, PacifiCorp will be locking down data and modeling assumptions and turn attention toward running models and evaluating results. The data and assumptions coming out of current activities will become inputs to the IRP mathematical modeling. Later in the process, IRP models will use those inputs and assumptions as part of calculating the least-cost, least-risk portfolio for each state. Some states share portfolios while others have unique models. A portfolio can be thought of as the best set of coordinated resources that meet all requirements for customers and regulations. A preferred portfolio is the single best set of coordinated resources to meet all requirements and is the basis of PacifiCorp’s two-to-four-year action plan.

Mr. Baker shared the high-level schedule for the 2025 IRP, which is driven by the most restrictive state’s timing. In addition to the 9 currently scheduled public input meetings occurring throughout, the IRP team has officially scheduled the distribution of a Draft IRP on January 1, 2025. This ambitious undertaking has become possible considering hard-won achievements regarding portfolio modeling and the filing of the Amended 2023 IRP by May 31 of last year. November and December progress updates

will discuss emergent events if applicable. Also, in the past, the IRP team reserved days to hold 2-day meetings but often did not use the second day on. For the current IRP cycle due to the acceleration of topics and to cover everything aligned with the September meeting, upcoming meetings are expected to cover two days again.

IRP meetings welcome public participation and generally see 60 to 100 participants at each meeting. Meetings are recorded and available through the [PacifiCorp IRP website](#).

### **Meeting Discussion:**

- Warm Springs Power and Enterprise stated that renewable energy generation is higher than fossil fuel-based energy generation, which is one of the reasons why the cost of electricity has gone up and is impacting customers at all utilities across Oregon. Washington and California have adopted a similar implementation, but there is a restriction on the information that can go out to customers.
  - Randy Baker shared that when policies go from a testing phase to the adoption phase there is an increased cost associated for the first adopters and the company has seen those effects over time as it proves difficult to stabilize company costs and the price to customers. However, tax breaks have been effective in reducing costs.
    - Warm Springs Power and Enterprise emphasized that the cost increase is not just on utilities, but politics play a major role as well.
    - Morgan Westberry added the importance of sharing information directly with the public, so voters are well informed about environmental and equitable solutions.
- Strategic Energy Group asked for a more in-depth explanation about an assumption from the IRP modeling.
  - Randy Baker shared challenges with wind, hydro and solar resource generation as solar relies directly on the sun shining which is only during the day and can be affected by storms and cloud coverage. Hydro is directly tied to water flow which is impacted by climate and weather patterns. The goal is to fairly represent each resource, so the model runs correctly.
- Tracey Moreland asked to explain the filing deadlines, which agency is the filing with and what happens after that? Can the commission make comments back to the company?
  - Randy Baker explained that the IRP is filed with the commission in each service territory state which all have similar processes in providing feedback and accepting comments, which can last for several rounds. The commission makes the final decision on accepting or denying the submittal.

### **Biennial Report**

Christina Medina explained the Biennial Report including requirements, submission details and the next steps. Pacific Power must submit a filing demonstrating Advisory Group activities every other year in accordance with HB2021 to the Oregon Public Utilities Commission where interested parties can download the docket and reply with comments. The final document will be posted to the company's website and the Clean Energy Planning page after acceptance.

The process starts with gathering input internally and through engagement groups, then a draft report is created with the groups and interested parties providing feedback. After feedback is received, the document undergoes a final review and is submitted and posted. Once more, feedback is gathered.



In considering how group discussions will be reflected in the Biennial report, members and participants of the Pacific Power Oregon Tribal Nations Engagement Series have expressed that they do not have the explicit authority to speak for the Tribes as a whole. The company deeply respects and values the individual experiences and viewpoints shared in the Tribal Nations engagement forums. These insights are instrumental in shaping the added and informed perspective on relevant topics for the Clean Energy Plan and more. Pacific Power continues to seek engagement with Oregon Tribes and members in this space and the Clean Energy Planning engagement space.

***Future discussion questions:***

- 1) How would you prefer we capture and attribute your personal experiences and contributions?
- 2) We want to honor your input and recognize the diversity of opinions and experiences within Indigenous communities. Are you participating in the Tribal Engagement meetings as a representative of your Tribe or organization? Or are they your personal views from your own experiences?
- 3) How can we best ensure that your voice is reflected accurately, and, in the context, you intended?
- 4) Who else should we include in this process?

***Meeting Discussion:***

- Tracey Moreland added that conversations are not bound by specific areas of expertise or Tribe, and it is not too late to reach out and identify other people that may have a voice in the questions and feedback the group seeks.

### Final Thoughts

Morgan Westberry welcomed final thoughts from the group.

### Meeting Close & Next Steps

Christina Medina thanked the group for the dialogue today and reiterated that feedback is being tracked in a living document that is posted online to ensure feedback is being acknowledged and captured.

### Upcoming Meetings

The next Oregon Tribal Nations Engagement Series meeting is scheduled for July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, from 9:00 – 11:00am via [Zoom](#). The following meeting will be held August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, from 9:00 – 11:00am via [Zoom](#).

Community Benefits and Impacts Advisory Group meeting – July 18, 2024, Online

[CBIAG Zoom Registration](#)

Integrated Resource Planning Public Input Meeting – August 14, 2024, Online

[Public Input Process \(pacificorp.com\)](#)

### Resources

Pacific Power's Christina Medina shared a slide of resource links and closed the meeting.

- Email comments to: [TribalRelations@PacifiCorp.com](mailto:TribalRelations@PacifiCorp.com)

- For more information: [Oregon Clean Energy Plan Updated Engagement Strategy](#)
- <https://www.pacificorp.com/energy/oregon-community-benefits-and-impacts.html>