



Clean Energy Planning Engagement Series for Oregon Tribal Nations

July 2024 Meeting Notes

July 26, 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 11 individuals in attendance at the Clean Energy Planning Engagement Series for the Oregon Tribal Nations meeting on July 26, 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.

AGENDA	
	Check In & Closing the Loop
	Customer Generation Projects
	Biennial Report Discussion
	Integrated Resource Planning Updates
	Final Thoughts
	Next Steps

Attendee	Organization
Attendees	
Brian Boswell	Umpqua Indian Utility Cooperative
Amber Faist	Northwest Native Chamber
David Hill	
Ellsworth Lang	Klamath Tribes (Klamath Modoc-Yahooskin)

Presenters

Kimberly Alejandro	Equity Advisory Analyst, Pacific Power
Christina Medina	Manager, Stakeholder Policy & Engagement, Pacific Power
Robert Meredith	Policy Director, Pricing & Tariff, Pacific Power
Tracy Moreland	Tribal Liaison Representative, Pacific Power
Jeffrey Daigle	Facilitator, E Source
Morgan Westberry	Facilitator, E Source

Pacific Power Affiliated Attendees

Jennifer Senner	Grant Program Manager
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 July 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.

Closing the Loop

Morgan Westberry recapped the last meeting, including:

- Reviewing PacifiCorp's proposed updates to CBI Framework based on the CBI activity feedback to identify impacted Tribal groups and challenges meeting Tribal needs
- Communicating the Biennial reporting process and revisiting discussion considerations
- Highlighting the IRP planning process and approach

Check In

E Source's Morgan Westberry posed the check in question: *What is something you have recently discovered that you are excited about?* Below are a few responses.

- Annual art show in neighborhood, being outdoors in the local community
- Extended leave for summer, spending time with family
- Finding nature close to home, family of red cardinals living in a nearby tree
- Family trip to east coast, Shenandoah National Park – exploring the natural & built environments

Customer Generation Projects

Robert Meredith, Pricing & Tariff Policy Director, presented Oregon customer generation programs to the group including net metering, the Oregon Solar Incentive program, and net billing. Net metering is

defined as an electric billing tool that uses the electric grid to "store" excess energy produced by solar panel systems. Under net metering, excess energy produced by customer solar panels that is not used is credited back to the customer. For example, if a customer generator on net metering took 500 kilowatt hours from the utility and then generated 250 kilowatt hours and sent that on to the grid or the distribution system, they would be billed at a net 250 kilowatt hours. In Oregon, net metering has been around since 2000 and has seen significant growth in adoption since. Currently, there are 18,796 customers participating in the net metering program, this represents 196 megawatts of nameplate capacity and 2.9% of customers.

The Oregon Solar Incentive Program was authorized by House Bill 3039 in 2009 to incentivize the solar installation market when solar energy was not common, it currently has 714 participants. Production meters were put on participating sites to measure customer generation. Customers were paid for all solar generation with the price dependent upon location with prices ranging from \$0.20 to \$0.65 per kilowatt hour, averaging out to \$5,892 in annual payments. Customers do pay a \$10 monthly solar meter charge to offset the cost of production. The value of solar energy under this program is \$3.2M annually. Customers are committed to 15-year contracts with the first contract expiring in August 2025.

Another program the company implemented in Utah and California is the net billing program, established in 2020, seen as a successor to net metering. With net billing there is not a netting of the energy on the customer's bill, instead everything that the customer *takes* from the utility gets the standard bill and what is *sent* to the utility gets financial credit. Currently, Utah customers enrolled in the net billing program are credited \$0.07 per kilowatt hour. Across the net metering, net billing, and transition programs between both, adoption has been stable over time. Currently, the company's priorities are:

1. Implementing a successor program for the Oregon Solar Incentive Program by August 2025
 - a. Ensuring compliance with legislation
2. Evaluating net metering and exploring alternative customer generation programs
3. Continuing and improving upon outreach with interested parties

Meeting Discussion:

- Northwest Native Chamber questioned if this work also looks into getting tribal communities connected to larger grid networks and exploring what the impact may look like?
 - Mr. Meredith is not personally aware of those projects as he does not work with bigger interconnection projects.
 - Ms. Medina shared that she has been working with renewable groups and native nations leadership to have those of conversations. There is already a lot of work happening behind the scenes, but it is not all publicized. If the group is interested, this can be a topic of discussion in the upcoming Tribal nations meetings.
- Umpqua Indian Utility Cooperative was recently contacted by vendor who referenced the company's upcoming RFP, suggesting it is going to specifically identify need for Tribal solar lands. Can Pacific Power speak more to that?

- Ms. Medina spoke with the Vice President of Resource Planning and Acquisitions who confirmed that the company is working on large scale solar interconnects for Tribal lands. He will be added to the upcoming meeting agenda to further discuss.

Biennial Report Discussion

Christina Medina explained the biennial reporting timeline 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 proposed reporting timeline is as follows:

- Mid/late August – Internal draft due → Internal draft review complete for revisions
- Early September – Internal draft review slides → External review slides complete
- Late September – Share summary slide deck with CBIAG → Share summary slide deck with Tribal group
- Early October – Revise draft report internally → Send draft report to CBIAG/Tribal
- Mid/late October – Discuss report with CBIAG → Discuss report with Tribal group
- Early/mid-November – Finalize report → File report

The feedback received from the Tribal nations group will be reflected in the biennial report. Pacific Power wants to honor members' wishes by attributing their words correctly, whether this be individuals representing themselves or individuals representing a group or Tribe.

Morgan Westberry outlined the Community Summary expectations as reflected in the biennial report. The company's priorities are ensuring 1) the Community Summary reflects authentic experience and input from communities 2) language is clear in explaining the key components required by HB2021. To achieve these priorities, Pacific Power will maintain an open dialogue, aim to reach consensus on input and how input is reflected, and continue discussions on upcoming opportunities asking for feedback to approve upon existing activities.

Meeting Discussion:

- Ms. Westberry asked if the group had reactions to the report's intention and timeline.
 - Members agreed with the proposed reporting timeline and have no qualms.
- Ms. Westberry asked the group, how do you want us to talk about you and your contributions?
 - Northwest Native Chamber recognizes that the answers will vary across participants due to unique challenges each member/Tribe must face. The most important thing is not attributing feedback but elevating it, especially high priority feedback and creating the space to follow up and share information about projects in the pipeline. Creating this sense of safety deepens the relationship between the utility and Tribes. This group should not be used as a justification for decisions beyond control.
 - Ms. Medina reiterated the desire to create a space that is inclusive and not necessarily utility centric. Although it is a tricky space to navigate, the input and

guardrails from members are important to help understand how to best work together to accomplish something meaningful.

Final Thoughts

Morgan Westberry welcomed final thoughts from the group.

- Ellsworth Lang addressed the intentionality and making sure this engagement space is not limited in topics. Klamath Tribes is establishing a strategic energy manager that can start handling the information from a more high-level perspective.
 - Ms. Medina noted a conversation with the governor's new Director of Tribal Affairs who questioned if there was any discussion in these meetings about clean energy planning and whether Tribes were expressing interest. Based on this conversation, there does seem to be an interest.

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 August 30th, 2024, from 9:00 – 11:00am via [Zoom](#). The following meeting will be held September 27th, 2024, from 9:00 – 11:00am at Warm Springs Power & Water Enterprises. Those who wish to attend and need travel support should reach out to Christina Medina. Those who cannot accommodate travel are welcome to join via [Zoom](#).

Integrated Resource Planning Public Input Meeting – August 14, 2024, Online
[Public Input Process \(pacificorp.com\)](#)

Community Benefits and Impacts Advisory Group meeting – August 15, 2024, Online
[CBIAG Zoom Registration](#)

Resources

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

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