

PacifiCorp Equity Advisory Group (EAG)

June 2022 EAG Meeting Notes
June 16, 2022, 1-4 pm Pacific Time

These notes were synthesized and summarized by RMI, PacifiCorp's meeting facilitation partner, without EAG member attribution. Additional information or responses to questions and comments not shared during the meeting are included in purple text.

Executive Summary

PacifiCorp shared updates on their energy efficiency programs and discussed their in-person, one-on-one meetings with EAG members. This meeting focused on PacifiCorp's methods for quantifying non-energy impacts for their programs and the results of their Energy Burden Study.

EAG June Meeting Objectives

- Update the EAG on energy efficiency programs
- Explore the preliminary results of PacifiCorp's Energy Burden study
- Begin understanding the non-energy benefits from PacifiCorp's programs and refine quantitative benefits of Demand Response

Slides: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)

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

Meeting Overview (1:00pm)

PacifiCorp shared meeting objectives, agenda, and high-level takeaways from their one-on-one conversations with EAG members.

EAG Member Check-In (1:05 pm)

EAG members checked in by sharing insights they took away from their one-on-one in person meetings with the PacifiCorp team, or by sharing something they wanted to tell PacifiCorp if they were unable to attend a 1:1 meeting. Themes included the importance of making connections in person and the value of outreach.

Energy Efficiency Updates (1:20 pm)

PacifiCorp presented updates on their energy efficiency programs, such as the Wattsmart Business Clean Building Accelerator, noting they had been unable to reach their 2020-2021 targets due to Covid-19 impacts and are projecting that they may underperform targets for 2021-2022. PacifiCorp also noted there would be a bill increase due to a System Benefits Charge effective August 1, 2022. PacifiCorp is focused on ramping up energy efficiency savings through outreach, education, and marketing materials for their programs.

Questions on the presentation included:

- Q: Will buildings smaller than 50,000 sq ft be able to be considered for the Clean Buildings Accelerator?

A: The second law, SB 5722, goes down to 20,000 square feet. WA Department of Commerce will send building owner notification letters by July 1, 2025. Building owners need to submit their compliance plans by July 1, 2027. They'll learn on large buildings and then work together on smaller buildings going forward.

Non-Energy Impacts (1:45 pm)

PacifiCorp then presented Non-Energy Impacts (NEIs), which are the impacts realized from energy efficiency equipment or programs other than energy savings and accompanying bill savings, such as thermal comfort, air pollution and bad debt write offs. After presenting a list of NEIs, PacifiCorp explained how their impacts are quantified.

The EAG was asked to consider the following prompt: *Based on your community's needs and preferences, what benefits described today are the most important for PacifiCorp to deliver on?* Themes from the discussion included:

- Cost impacts, such as water and waste disposal, might fluctuate significantly from the baseline used in non-energy impact reference studies
 - PacifiCorp noted that for some saving such as water, they use regular sources of updated pricing information
 - Discretion should be used when using reports older than 10 years old, due to significant economic and political changes
 - Non-energy impacts may vary by community, targeting a specific audience is important, as different companies and individuals have different valuations of these benefits
 - Data transparency is key for the EAG to understand the non-energy impact assessments.
- As such, the EAG requested the opportunity to see the reference studies

- Peter Schaffer shared the following data sources:
 - Ontario Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) Non-Energy Impacts Final Report: [Study0005 IESO NEI Final Report updated as of 03 27 18.pdf](#)
 - Non-Energy Impacts Evaluation for (Summit Blue Consulting prepared for NY State Energy Research and Development Authority: [Study0007 SummitBlue Quantec Non-Energy Impacts \(NEI\) Evaluation Final Report \(1\).pdf](#)
 - C1641 Impact Evaluation of the Business and Energy Sustainability Program (prepared for the CT Energy Efficiency Board): [Study0040 C1641 BES Impact Eval Report Final-Compiled 9.5.18.pdf](#)
 - Human Health Benefits Reducing Residential Wood Smoke Emissions in PacifiCorp's WA State Service Territory: [Study0049 PacifiCorp Wood Smoke Analysis Final Report v1.pdf](#)

- Massachusetts Program Administrators Final Report on Commercial and Industrial Non-Energy Impacts Study: [Study0002_DNV_KEMA_Final_MA_NEI_REPORT_June_29_2012.pdf](#)
- Program Administrators of Massachusetts Non-Energy Impact Framework Study Report: [Study0004_NEI_Framework_Study_Report_1-23-2018_Final.pdf](#)

Energy Burden (2:34 pm)

Empower Data Works then presented their 2022 Energy Burden Assessment study, designed to support PacifiCorp’s CETA compliance and planning. This presentation focused on understanding energy burden and using information to target energy efficiency and direct assistance programs. PacifiCorp also demonstrated their Energy Burden data dashboard.

Questions and requests from the presentation included:

- Q: Are the assistance programs consistent in what is offered across all counties across the state?
 - A: Programs vary by utilities across the state. Specifically, for LIBA, no other utilities that I am aware of offer tiered discount program
- Q: The investment slides didn’t look at trailer home or renters. Does that mean they won’t be spending money on that segment? These represent most homes in some communities.
 - A: The charts show the existing levels of need and funding. The data shows there is a gap between need and spending, which indicates the need to spend more time, energy and outreach targeting these customers
- Request: It would be helpful to have these maps to understand who is more or less likely to be energy burdened.
 - A: There are some publicly available sources, in addition to this customer specific data. The data becomes particularly interesting when you layer non energy impacts in.
 - Empower Data Works shared the following data resources:
 - DOE Climate and Environmental Justice Screening Tool (<https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/>): Shows vulnerable communities based on several health and social factors including energy burden
 - DOE LEAD tool (<https://www.energy.gov/eere/slsc/maps/lead-tool/>): High level estimates of energy burden by county or census tract
 - RMI Transition Hub (<https://utilitytransitionhub.rmi.org/customers-community/>): Various data points related to utility decarbonization
 - Washington Department of Health Environmental Health Disparities Map <https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/wtn/WTNIBL/>

The EAG was asked to consider the following prompt *Based on what you’ve heard about the energy burden study, what other recommendations or considerations should PacifiCorp consider?* Themes from the discussion included:

- Regarding customer experience, social media shouldn’t be the first avenue for many communities. Many communities do not rely on computers or internet as their primary means of communication, and physical locations are key to reaching these communities
- Some non-profits could benefit from more information on how PacifiCorp works with community organizations
- Community roundtables have funds to help people, but restrictions on how they can be used. Getting funds through different sources through outreach is key

Public Comment (3:49 pm)

The public attendees were invited to provide comments or ask questions. No members of the public gave comment

Checkout, Closeout, and Next Steps (3:54 pm)

For checkout, the EAG was asked: *Heading into the summer, what community concerns are on your mind?* Concerns included:

- How heat and fires affect communities
- Power outages due to high winds and heat
- Flooding

PacifiCorp talked about the role data plays in their decision making. They plan to release a resource library to make their material more accessible to EAG members and the general public.

PacifiCorp closed by thanking all the EAG for their time and their stories from their one-on-one meetings.

Attendees were reminded that meeting materials and notes are posted to the website, and that the next EAG Meeting is on Wednesday July 13, from 1-4 pm PT.