Briefing Paper
Draft Strategic Plan

November 4, 2009

Summary

The Strategic Planning Committee has extended the comment period and scheduled action on a final strategic plan for the December 18th board meeting.

Background

- The draft strategic plan has been under discussion since June, 2009.
- The draft was circulated for public comment through October 16, 2009.
- Staff had proposed to bring this to the board for final action at the November 4 meeting.

Discussion

- Consultations have been held with the CAC and the RAC, the Oregon Public Utility Commission and Energy Trust's funding utilities. In addition, two written comments, one from Steve Weiss of the NW Energy Coalition, and one from the NW Energy Efficiency Alliance (NEEA), were received. Comments are summarized in the attached matrix.
- Three of the four utilities that fund Energy Trust (all but NW Natural) were in the process of determining what rates they intend to propose for the coming two-year period, including for supplemental efficiency funding for Energy Trust programs.
- Until these determinations are made, the strategic plan could only assume levels of funding for Energy Trust programs, which would then have to be adjusted once funding determinations are made.
- To allow time for these determinations, and for staff to revise the draft plan to reflect them, the Strategic Planning Committee extended the comment period to November 4.

Next Steps

- The Strategic Planning Committee proposes that the Board consider action on a final strategic plan at the Board's December meeting.

Comment	Commenter	Response
The renewable strategy is thin.	OPUC consultation	We have fleshed-out the renewable part of the plan to clarify its elements: • Maintain flexibility to support a variety of technologies • Provide more support, earlier • Help leverage other funding • Team with utilities
Show where you expect to finds savings by sector over the coming five years	OPUC consultation	We will address.
Spell out what Energy Trust is trying to accomplish in the "Encourage innovative technologies" section of the plan.	OPUC consultation	We are fleshing out the five-year activities sections of the plan to provide examples of key activities, including investment in innovative technologies.
Does Energy Trust have goals for any long-term element, e.g., net-zero?	OPUC consultation	We do not have quantitative objectives for long-term goals. We recommend reserving quantitative objectives for two-year action plans.
The draft plan is well done. We encourage you to show the impact of natural gas efficiency programs in relation to load growth, as you have done for electric efficiency programs.	NW Energy Coalition	We plan to address the gas demand issue in narrative rather than graphically, recognizing that we do not have an independent forecast of gas demand, as we do for electricity.
Address data-sharing constraints	Cascade Natural Gas	We agree, and are addressing data-sharing constraints outside the strategic plan.
How will feed-in tariff affect RE program?	PGE	The answer depends in large part on an OPUC rule-making process to be concluded in Spring 2010.
We would like to regularly consult on cost-effectiveness, measure choice and evaluations	NW Natural	We agree.
We would like to explore capitalizing EE expense	NW Natural	We agree.
Natural gas is not like coal for purposes of climate policy; gas is a bridge strategy	NW Natural	We agree and will re-word the strategic plan accordingly.

Would like to explore ETO doing more with low-income programs.	NW Natural	We are open to discussion, understanding that CAP agencies lead under current law.
In asking for more funds, be sure you can expend them, and that IRP goals are realistic in a down economy. Would it be better to address rates a year at a time?	Cascade Natural Gas	We agree.
We want to work with you to be sure credit for the EE investment is shared	NW Natural	We agree.
"We were very impressed with the conciseness of the plan, the metrics presented, and the fact that you could focus efforts into two goals. We also commend your focus on markets and working within existing market channels with an eye for sustainable results. We support scenario planning, and specifically fully support the EE IRP-Achievable scenario, which is consistent with the [NW Power and Conservation] Council's [draft] 6th Power Plan."	NEEA	We appreciate.
Show Energy Trust's "position relative to other players in the energy efficiency space."	NEEA	Under consideration.
Group the draft plan's five-year activities: one group for #1, #3, #5 and #6 and another group for activities 2, 4 and 7.	NEEA	Under consideration.