

Renewable Energy Advisory Council Agenda - Revised

Virtual meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, September 16, 2020

9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

To join the Zoom meeting, you will need to register in advance:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJkduGtqjkrGNLatyG9meHrJFZq-RCi5H5p>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Note on agenda revision: To make room for a discussion about the impacts of the wildfires, we are postponing the presentation from Kevala Analytics on identifying opportunities and constraints on the grid. We expect to have room for this on our November agenda.

9:30 Welcome and announcements

- Welcome to new RAC members
- Plans for October 14 RAC meeting

9:40 Open discussion about wildfires and their impact *(discussion)*

We will take some time for RAC members and guests to share information about the wildfires and their implications for Energy Trust's and RAC members' work and impacts on the people we serve.

10:00 2021 budget themes *(presentation and feedback)*

Staff will present the key program concepts that will be reflected in the draft 2021-22 budget and seek feedback from RAC members.

10:45 Thank you to Frank Vignola *(discussion)*

Frank Vignola from the University of Oregon Solar Radiation Monitoring Lab was one of the first members of the RAC. He has retired from RAC service and several guests will join the meeting to honor Frank for his contributions to the solar industry and the RAC.

11:05 Public comment

11:10 Adjourn

You can view this agenda and notes from previous meetings at: energytrust.org/about/public-meetings. If you have comments on meeting notes, please email [Alina Lambert](mailto:Alina.Lambert@energytrust.org).

Next RAC meeting: There will be a joint budget workshop for RAC, the Conservation Advisory Council (CAC), the Diversity Advisory Council (DAC), the board of directors and the public from 9:00 a.m. to noon on Wednesday, October 14, 2020, followed by a one-hour regular RAC meeting from noon to 1:00.

2021 Budget Engagement Schedule with Conservation Advisory Council, Diversity Advisory Council and Renewable Energy Advisory Council

As a nonprofit organization investing utility customer funds, Energy Trust of Oregon conducts an open annual budgeting and planning process. We develop an annual budget and two-year action plan collaboratively with our five utility partners, and we ask for feedback from our board of directors, advisory councils, Oregon Public Utility Commission, utilities, community organizations, other stakeholders and the public. We value and appreciate feedback and insights.

Budgeting for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Guided by the draft 2020-2024 Strategic Plan, the budget sets annual revenues, expenditures and organizational goals to acquire all identifiable cost-effective energy efficiency and generate renewable energy from small-scale systems. The budget enables us to deliver energy-efficiency and renewable energy programs for investor-owned utilities in Oregon, energy-efficiency programs for NW Natural in southwest Washington plus additional activities described in the draft budget.

Activities needed to achieve the organizational goals are detailed in program and support group action plans. There are separate action plans for the programs delivered in Oregon, the two programs delivered in NW Natural's Washington territory and for a subcontract to support delivery of the State of Oregon's Community Solar Program. Each action plan lists strategies, key activities, expected changes for 2022 and other contextual information.

Budget Process Overview

We start developing the budget in the summer of each year. We work with each of our five partner utilities and preview to them in August major changes and new activities for the upcoming year.

We provide high-level overviews of program and support group action plans to our three advisory councils in September: Conservation Advisory Council, Diversity Advisory Council and Renewable Energy Advisory Council. These meetings are open to the public.

We assemble a comprehensive draft budget with two-year action plans by the end of September. This budget package is posted for public review and comment in early October, and our Executive Director Michael Colgrove presents on the budget at a public workshop in October attended by our board of directors and three advisory councils. Feedback is encouraged from the public and stakeholders through these meetings and in writing, with the draft budget and a recorded presentation are available. Staff also present to OPUC commissioners in early November at a public meeting.

All feedback is considered as staff completes revenue discussions with each utility in October and refines the draft budget throughout November. The board acts on a final proposed budget in December, and the final budget is posted online and submitted to the OPUC by year-end.

Key Dates for Conservation Advisory Council, Diversity Advisory Council and Renewable Energy Advisory Council

July

- Staff determine new activities for 2021 and identify significant changes from 2020 budget.

September

- **September 15 – Diversity Advisory Council public meeting:** Provide overview of budget process and schedule and relevant action plan highlights.
- **September 16 – Conservation Advisory Council and Renewable Energy Advisory Council public meetings:** Provide high-level description of what is driving activities in draft program action plans. At Conservation Advisory Council, update on measure reviews, including status of OPUC cost-effectiveness exception requests.

October

- **October 7:** Draft budget posted on www.energytrust.org
- **October 7:** Public comment period opens; Advisory council members encouraged to submit comments. Email draft budget binder to board, OPUC, advisory councils and public.
- **October 14 – public meeting:** Budget workshop with board, advisory councils, community-based organizations and the public. Discuss draft budget and action plans with an executive summary presentation followed by participatory workshop with staff.
- **October 28:** Public comment period closes.

November

- **November 17 – Diversity Advisory Council public meeting.** Review significant changes to draft budget, if any.
- **November 18 – Conservation Advisory Council and Renewable Energy Advisory Council public meetings:** Review significant changes to draft budget, if any.

December

- **December 3:** Final proposed budget posted on www.energytrust.org.
- **December 11 – Board of Directors public meeting:** Final proposed budget and action plan presented for board consideration and vote of approval.
- **December 31:** Board-approved budget submitted to OPUC and posted on www.energytrust.org.