



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Contents

A-2. OVERVIEW

A-3. INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLANNING ADVISORY GROUP (IRPAG)

A-4. CONSERVATION RESOURCES ADVISORY GROUP (CRAG)

A-5. TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP (TAG)

PSE is committed to public involvement in the planning process. Stakeholder meetings generated valuable constructive feedback, and the suggestions and practical information we received from both organizations and individuals helped guide the development of the 2015 IRP. We wish to thank all who participated.



OVERVIEW

By the time this plan was filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC), 13 formal Integrated Resource Plan Advisory Group (IRPAG) meetings had been held, as well as numerous Conservation Resource Advisory Group (CRAG) and Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meetings and dozens of informal meetings and communications. Stakeholders who actively participated in one or more meetings include Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) staff, Public Counsel, Northwest Industrial Gas Users (NWIGU), Northwest Gas Association (NWGA), Northwest Pipeline, conservation and renewable resource advocates, the Northwest Power and Conservation Council, project developers, other utilities, customers, the City of Bellevue and the Washington State Department of Commerce.

This appendix briefly describes the purpose of the IRPAG, CRAG and TAG, and lists the formal IRPAG meetings held. We especially want to thank those who attended these meetings for both the time and energy they invested, and we encourage their continued participation. The IRPAG covers all elements of the IRP, the CRAG focuses on energy efficiency and demand-side resources and the TAG delves into detailed technical information. While the three groups meet separately, they have many members in common.



INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLANNING ADVISORY GROUP (IRPAG)

Throughout the development of the IRP, PSE works with external stakeholders via an informal group called the IRPAG. WAC 480-90/100-238 requires PSE to develop the IRP and implement the two-year action plan it recommends; the IRPAG is the primary means of satisfying the public involvement requirements of the law. While the IRP document is not a product of “consensus,” the IRPAG engages PSE and stakeholders in a consultative process that has proven to be an effective means for PSE planning staff to receive input on many key framework assumptions and related issues.

One of the Action Plan items presented in Chapter 1, Executive Summary, of the 2013 IRP was to “develop a robust work plan for the 2015 IRP to clarify the roles and expectations of the public participation process and to provide greater transparency regarding PSE’s analytical processes.” In this regard, PSE retained PDSA Consulting, Inc. to facilitate both the IRPAG and CRAG meetings, setting up consensus-driven ground rules for the 2015 IRPAG process. The ground rules provided various meeting guidelines, the documentation of meeting notes, a listing of next steps and action items, timing of IRPAG presentation material distribution and the creation of Technical Advisory Groups (TAG) to address complex analytical issues to be shared with the IRPAG.

IRPAG Meetings for the 2015 IRP

The agendas, meeting notes, handouts and copies of the full presentations made by PSE staff at the IRP Advisory Group meetings are posted on PSE’s website at <http://pse.com/aboutpse/EnergySupply/Pages/Resource-Planning.aspx>.

March 18, 2014 (kickoff)	January 22, 2015
May 16, 2014	March 20, 2015
July 28, 2014	April 9, 2015
September 25, 2014	May 19, 2015
December 8, 2014	June 18, 2015
	August 3, 2015
	September 11, 2015
	October 16, 2015



CONSERVATION RESOURCES ADVISORY GROUP (CRAG)

The CRAG was formally established as part of the settlement of PSE's 2001 General Rate Case, which the WUTC approved in Docket Nos. UE-011570 and UG-011571. The group specifically works with PSE on development of energy efficiency plans, targets and budgets. The CRAG consists of ratepayer representatives, regulators and energy efficiency policy organizations.

The CRAG participated in the development of the 2015 IRP and energy efficiency program review through formal meetings in which it reviewed and offered feedback on the assessment of all demand-side resources (energy efficiency, fuel conversion and demand-response). The CRAG is also instrumental in reviewing IRP guidance to develop PSE's biennial energy efficiency targets and programs, and in reviewing our progress toward achieving those targets. Many members participated in other aspects of the IRP advisory process as well.



TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP (TAG)

The IRPAG created the TAG at the start of this 2015 IRP process to address the 2013 IRP Action Plan goal of providing greater transparency regarding PSE's analytical processes. The TAG is a smaller group of technical people who agreed to address and understand technical information in order to educate and provide feedback to the IRPAG in an efficient and effective manner. The TAG met multiple times during the course of the 2015 IRP process and researched and provided guidance on a number of issues.