

May 11, 2015

# **SUSTAINABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY / Clean Electricity**

1.2 Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emission from Electrical Energy Consumption to 16.9 mmt/year by 2020

**Department of Commerce** 

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Utilities and Transportation Commission Dave Danner, Chairman



Department of Commerce Innovation is in our nature.





# **Results Washington**

# 3.1.2.a Increase electric load served by renewable energy to 9% by 2016 and 15% by 2020





# Background: Moving Beyond Our Hydroelectric Legacy



**Bonneville Dam** 



- Washington is the largest producer of hydroelectricity in the U.S.
- Our hydroelectricity has major benefits
  - Lowest electricity prices in the U.S.
  - Cleaner air (100% attainment areas)
  - Use of an in-state resource keeping \$ and jobs in Washington
- How do we meet our future electricity needs?
  - Very little new hydroelectricity potential
  - Need to maintain clean air benefits, reduce emissions, and avoid increasing emissions
  - Take full advantage of our indigenous resources

#### **New Renewable Electricity Sources**

**Stateline Wind** 

# Background: Energy Independence Act (I-937) is the Policy Base

- Applies to utilities with more than 25,000 customers, about 85% of state's electric sales
- Electric utilities must pursue, identify and acquire all available costeffective conservation (3.1.2b)
- Electric utilities must use renewable energy for a portion of their supply
  - 2012-2015: 3%
  - 2016-2019: 9%
  - 2020 and beyond: 15%
- Consumer protections to limit impact on cost of power
  - Conservation must be cost-effective
  - Incremental cost of renewables limited at 4% of revenue requirement
  - Lower renewable cost limit for non-growing utilities

3.1.2.a Increase electric load served by renewable energy

### Current State: All Utilities are Meeting Renewable Requirements

- Utilities have met their requirements in 2012, 2013, 2014
- Wind is most common resource but hydroelectric upgrades are also important
- Utilities percentages range from 3% to 11.4%
- Investor-owned utilities have resources, contracts, and renewable energy credits (RECs) sufficient to meet 2020 target of 15%
- Some consumer-owned utilities are likely to hit price cap before hitting percentage targets 12% vs 15%
- Solar electricity is a very small contributor to the mix



# Problem / Opportunity: Need to "keep the faith" with I-937 goals



#### Challenges

- Many utilities are pushing policies to roll back renewables requirements.
- Low load growth
- Need to establish goals after 2020
- Difficult to determine investment levels and costs for consumer-owned utility compliance
- Need to harmonize state targets with EPA's proposed Clean Power Plan (111d)
- Absent renewable targets, utilities acquire the least-cost resource

### Strategies: Focus on Policy to Maintain and Strengthen Achievements

#### **Strategies**

- Reduce the capital cost of renewable energy technologies
  - -Clean Energy R,D&D Funding
- Develop legislative and administrative solutions that maintain the goals
  - Improve cost accounting information
  - Improvements to incremental hydro
  - Better promotion of combined heat and power
  - Maintain integrity of REC tracking and compliance (prevent double-counting)
- Challenge is to reach agreement among diverse parties
  - All utilities are not equal
  - Strong environmental and business perspectives
  - Determine if (electric or transportation sector) substituting carbon offsets for renewable electricity reduces overall carbon emissions.

# **Action Plan**

Task	Task Lead	Partners	Expected Outcome	Status	Due Date
Update I-937 Rules	Commerce – COUs UTC- IOUs	Auditor, UTC	Streamline reporting requirements, and standardize methodologies	Complete / On Track	UTC: Mar. '15 COM: June '15
Extend and Revise WA Solar Legislation	Commerce	DOR, WSU Energy, UTC	Increase solar capacity from 36 to 150 megawatts	Uncertain	June '15
New Funding for Smart Grid Grants	Commerce	Governor's Office	Increase deployment of smart grid solutions to integrate renewables	Awaiting Final Capital Budget	June '15
New Funding for Energy Loans	Commerce	Governor's Office	Development of additional renewable projects	Awaiting Final Capital Budget	June '15



# **Results Washington**

# 3.1.2.b Increase electric load growth replaced by conservation to 155 average megawatts/year by 2020





# Background: Electricity Efficiency A Thirty-Five Year Success Story



NW Regional Electricity Savings

#### **Electricity Efficiency is the resource of choice**

- Costs less to save energy than generate it
  - Benefits electric utilities and customers
- Major environmental benefits
- New technologies bring new savings LED lights

#### WA and the NW lead the nation in efficiency

- 1980 NW Power Act Conservation as preferred resource
- WA utilities invested \$290 million in efficiency (2013)
- WA Energy Code among the best in U.S.
- WA in top 10 for efficiency laws and policies act. (ACEEE)

## Current State: We are on Track to Achieve our 2020 Goal

- I-937 utilities will achieve conservation equal to 7.4 percent of load by the end of 2015
- Individual I-937 utilities range from 5.1 percent to 8.3 percent savings
- All results are audited as required by statute (RCW 19.285.060)
- The other smaller utilities (not I-937) have robust conservation programs largely funded and evaluated by BPA
- State is making investments in public sector building efficiency



**Electrical Load Growth Replaced by Conservation** 

# Problem / Opportunity:

## Challenges

- Many utilities have small net load growth making them less interested in conservation.
- Utilities need to continue to develop robust energy conservation potential studies
- Energy codes face cost effectiveness challenges and long-standing political opposition
- State budgets for energy efficiency are funded biennially no dedicated fund source like some other high-achiever states
- Need to harmonize state conservation achievement with EPA's proposed Clean Power Plan (111d) targets

# **Action Plan**

Task	Task Lead	Partners	Expected Outcome	Status	Due Date
Update the State Energy Code	Commerce	SBCC, NEEA, NWEC	New, higher efficiency code (8 to 14% improvement	On Track	Dec. '15
New Funding for Energy Loans	Commerce	Governor's Office	Development of additional energy efficiency projects	Awaiting Final Capital Budget	June '15
New Funding for Public Facility Efficiency	Commerce	Governor's Office	Increase energy efficiency in public buildings	Awaiting Final Capital Budget	June '15
Support Strong Conservation in the 7 <sup>th</sup> Regional Power Plan	Commerce	Power Council, Utilities, UTC	Establish new long-term conservation goals for WA utilities.	On Track	Jan.'16
Energy Conservation	UTC	IOUs, NWEC, Public Counsel, ICNU, Commerce	Formalize robust energy efficiency resource planning process through rulemaking	Complete	Mar. '15

Results: 7-8 million metric tons per year after 2020 from renewables and conservation

