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Northwest **Power** and Conservation Council

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March 3, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Jennifer Light, Director of Power Planning

SUBJECT: Power Plan Update

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Jennifer Light

Summary: The Power Division is preparing the Council's Ninth Regional Power Plan. Since this is a long process with many interconnected components, staff plan a standing item at Council meetings to provide members with an update on the status of work to date and highlight the next steps.

The Ninth Plan is entering a critical stage, with the expectation of scenario modeling results for the April Council meeting. At the March meeting, staff will provide a brief update on the status of scenario modeling and then walk through what is anticipated over the next several months as the Council works towards a draft Power Plan.

Relevance: Under the Northwest Power Act, the Council is required to review its power plan no less frequently than once every five years. The Council initiated its review of the power plan in February 2025, with a goal of developing a final power plan by November 2026.

Workplan: B. Development of Ninth Power Plan

Power Plan Update

Jennifer Light
March 10, 2026



Northwest **Power** and
Conservation Council

Today's Topics

- Brief update on scenario modeling
- Looking ahead

Updates on Scenario Modeling

We've entered the final stage of modeling!!

- Final testing and tuning was completed in February
- Needs assessments were updated based on this final tuning
 - We'll share those results today
- OptGen studies have been kicked off!

- We are not there yet, but this is an important milestone



Looking Ahead

Working Towards July Draft

April

Focus on reviewing results from modeling and background chapters of plan

May

Focus on developing recommendations based on results and other analysis

June

Focus on reviewing plan chapters capturing recommendations

July

Finalizing draft plan

April

Pre-Meeting Prep :

- Staff to provide Chapters 1-3 on or around packet day
- Schedule time to provide high-level preview of results

April Council Meeting:

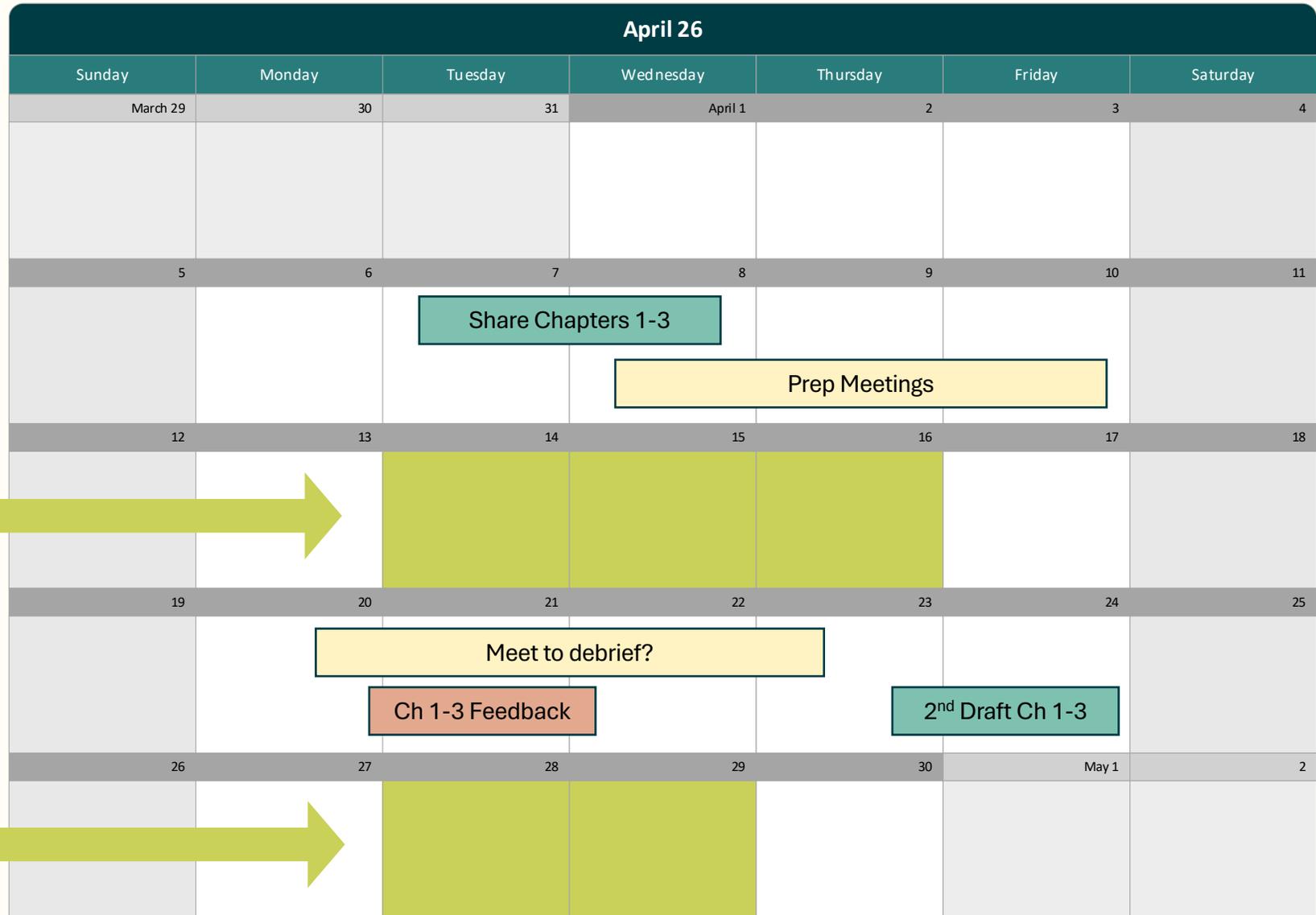
- OptGen Results
- Chapters 1-3

Post-meeting:

- Discuss results
- Member feedback on Ch 1-3

Extra Meeting Late April:

- Revisit Chapters 1-3
- Deeper dive in results



May

Pre-Meeting Prep :

- Schedule time to provide to discuss potential recs
- Share another draft of Chapters 1-3 by end of week, as needed

May Council Meeting:

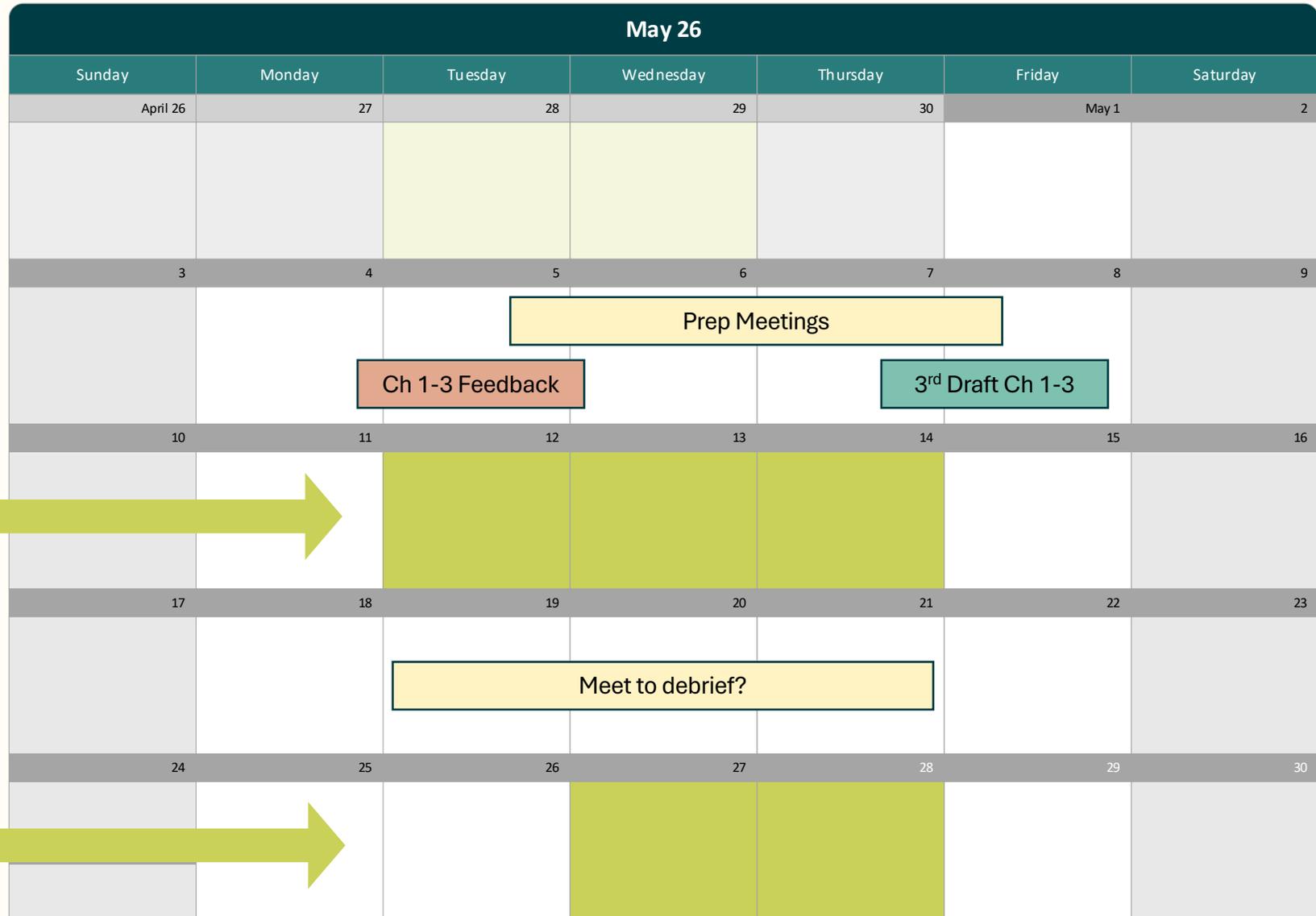
- Discuss recommendations
- Revisit Chapters 1-3 (if needed)

Post meeting:

- Meet to discuss recs, maybe in small work groups if needed

Extra Meeting Late May:

- Follow-up discussion on recommendations, maybe in small work group if needed



June

Pre-Meeting Prep :

- Staff to provide Chapters 4 & 5 on or around packet day

June Council Meeting:

- Discuss Chapters 4 & 5

Post meeting:

- Member feedback on Ch 4 & 5

Extra Meeting Late June:

- Revisit Chapters 4 & 5
- Discuss Introduction

June 26						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 31	June 1	2	3	4	5	6
	Meetings as needed to discuss recommendations					
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Share Chapters 4 & 5					
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	June Council Meeting					
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Ch 4 & 5 Feedback			2nd Draft Ch 4 & 5		
				Share Draft Intro		
28	29	30	July 1	2	3	4
	Extra Meeting Late June					

July

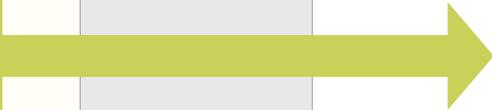
Post/Pre-Meeting Prep :

- Member feedback on Ch 4 & 5 and introduction
- Staff to turn around full draft by end of week

July Council Meeting:

- Discuss Ch 4&5 and Intro (if needed)
- Decision to release draft??

July 26						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
June 28	29	30	July 1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Feedback on Chapters			Share full document for potential decision		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	August 1



Working Towards November Final

August

Hold public hearings
and have
consultations

September

Hold public hearings
and have
consultations

October

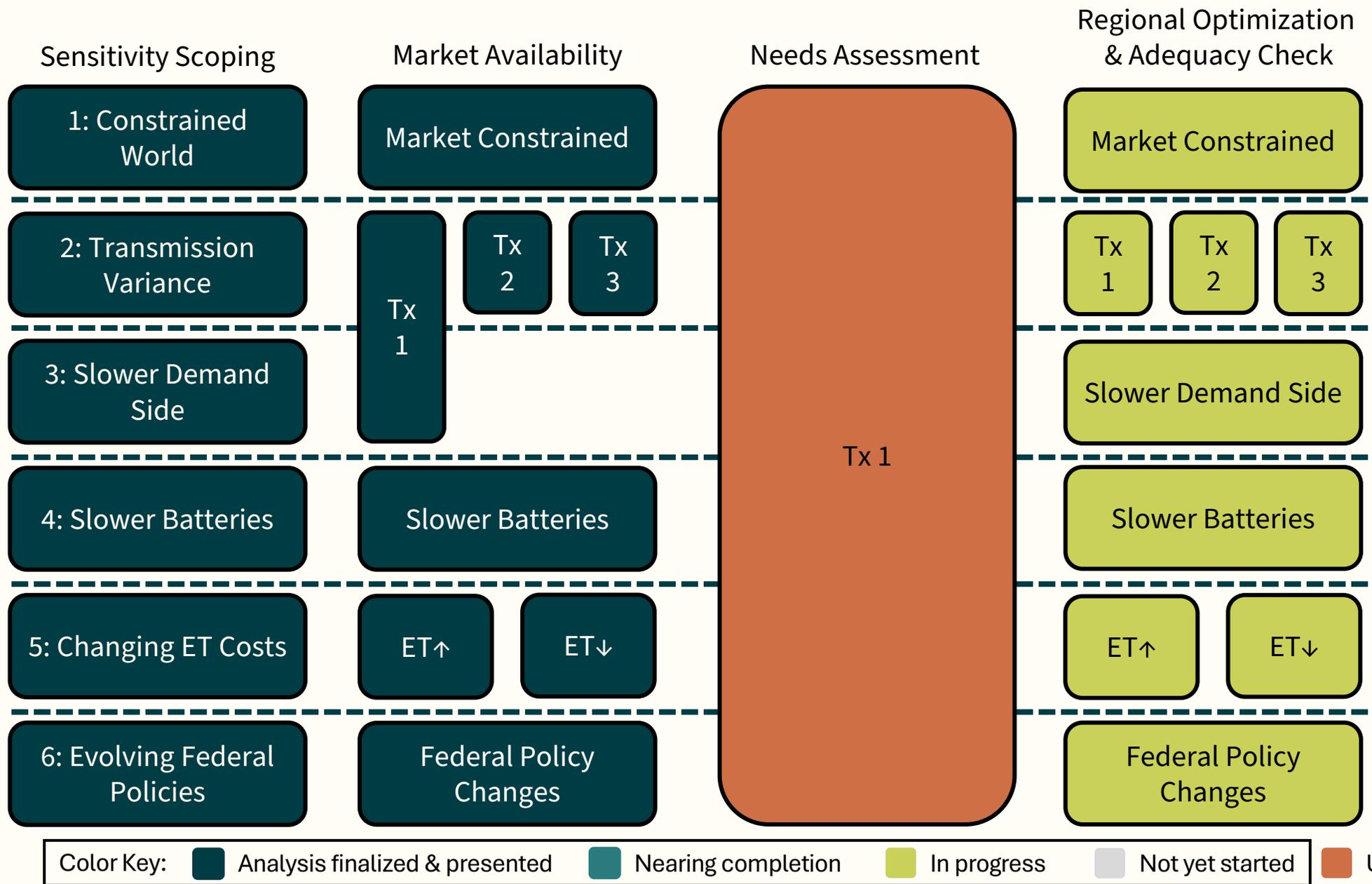
Discuss comments
on the draft Power
Plan

November

Finalizing plan

Questions?

Resource and Tx Risk



Changing Hydro Ops

