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June 9, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Laura Thomas, Regional Technical Forum Manager

SUBJECT: Regional Technical Forum 2025 Annual Report

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Laura Thomas

Summary: The Regional Technical Forum (RTF) submits its 2025 Annual Report to the Council, with the intention of providing an update to both the Council and partners about the RTF's activities in 2025 and a preview of the work in the current calendar year.

The development and maintenance of a portfolio of measures that provide energy savings estimates for the Northwest region are a core function for the RTF. In 2025, the RTF's focus on this core function included updating multiple measures to incorporate the latest evaluation data and other research to ensure that the measures continue to provide accurate estimates and reliable savings. In addition, the RTF expanded its measure portfolio new measures to support regional utility programs. The RTF launched efforts to update and improve the existing suite of demand response products that support the Council and region with planning estimates for demand response opportunities.

At this meeting, staff will present to the Council the highlights captured in the 2025 Annual Report.

Relevance: The RTF is an advisory committee to the Council to develop standards to verify and evaluate energy saving. The RTF's role is to provide the region with consistent and reliable quantification of energy savings estimates for specific technologies or actions. This work enables accurate estimates of the region's conservation potential and is key input to power system planning as well as understanding the region's accomplishments. The work of the RTF is funded by Bonneville, Energy Trust of Oregon, and regional utilities. The Council provides contributions to the RTF through staff time, and office and meeting space.

Workplan: A.2.5 Continue to manage the Regional Technical Forum, leveraging its data and analysis to expand and enhance the assessment of energy efficiency and demand response potential.

Background: Per its charter, the RTF is required to publish an Annual Report by mid-year. The 2025 Annual Report provides work highlights and financials for the 2025 calendar year, as well as a preview of the progress made in 2026.

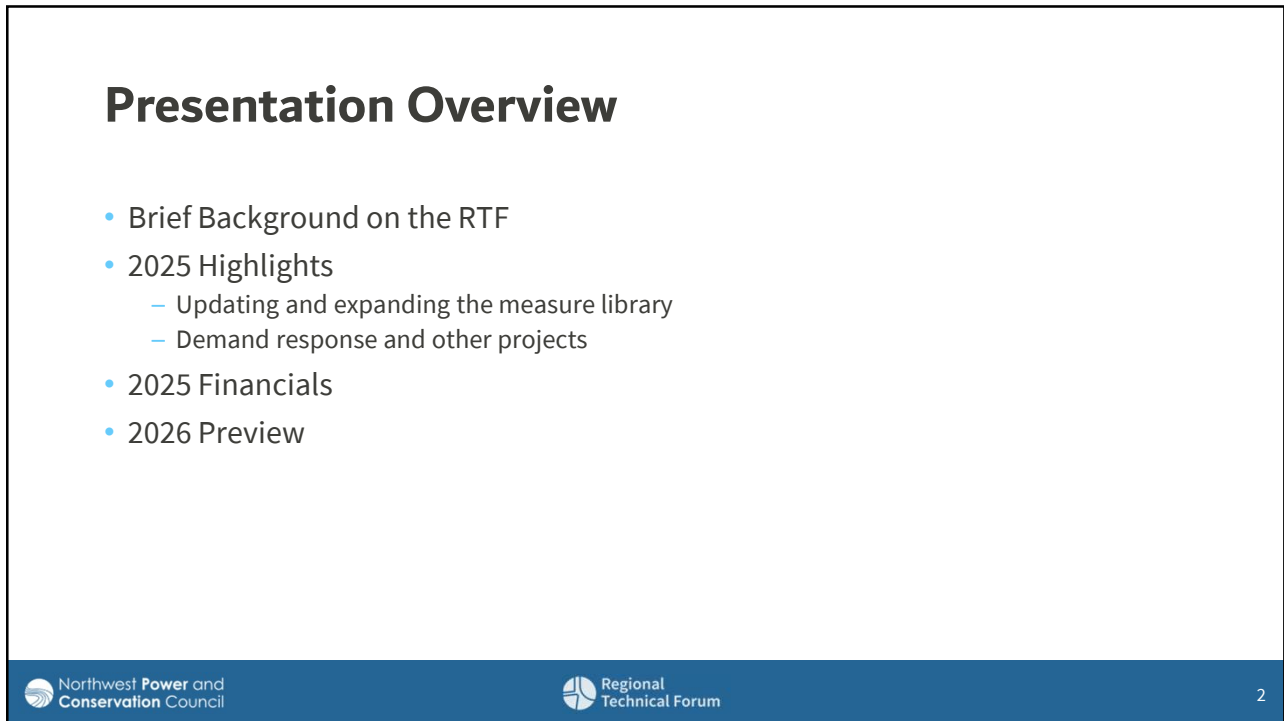


**Regional Technical Forum
2025 Annual Report**

Laura Thomas
June 2026 Council Meeting



 Northwest Power and Conservation Council  Regional Technical Forum

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Presentation Overview

- Brief Background on the RTF
- 2025 Highlights
 - Updating and expanding the measure library
 - Demand response and other projects
- 2025 Financials
- 2026 Preview





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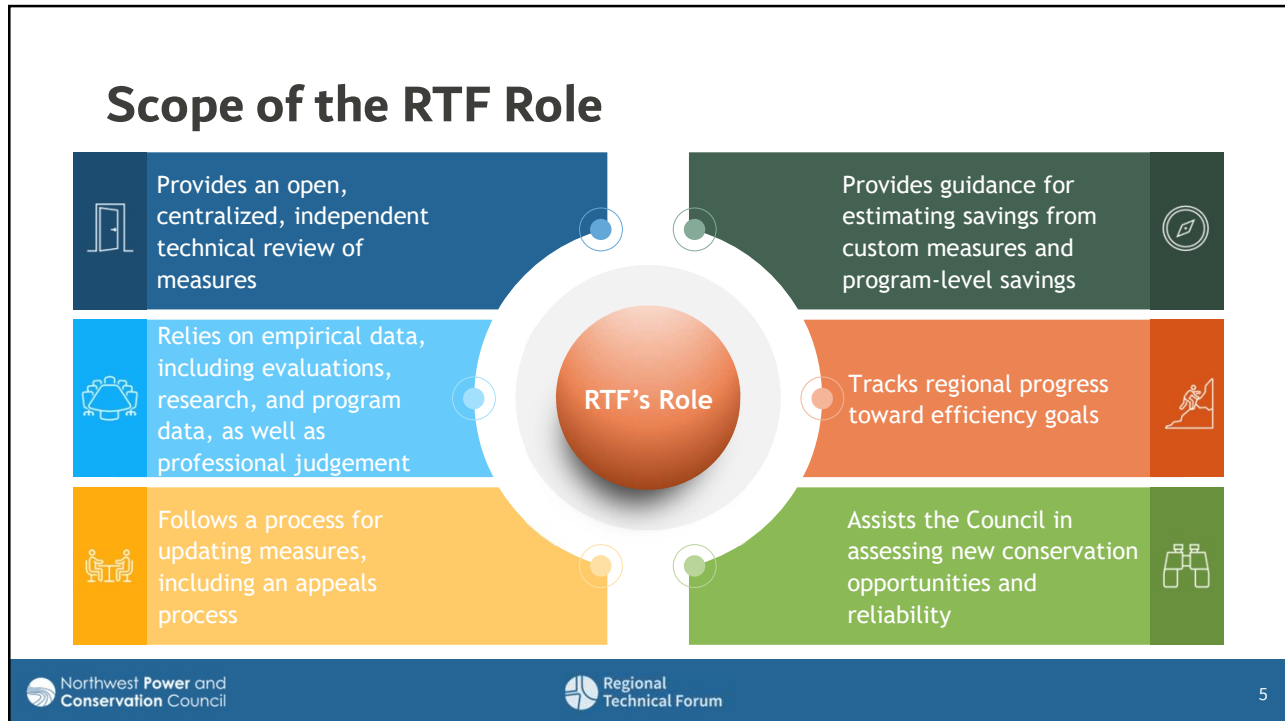
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What is the Regional Technical Forum?

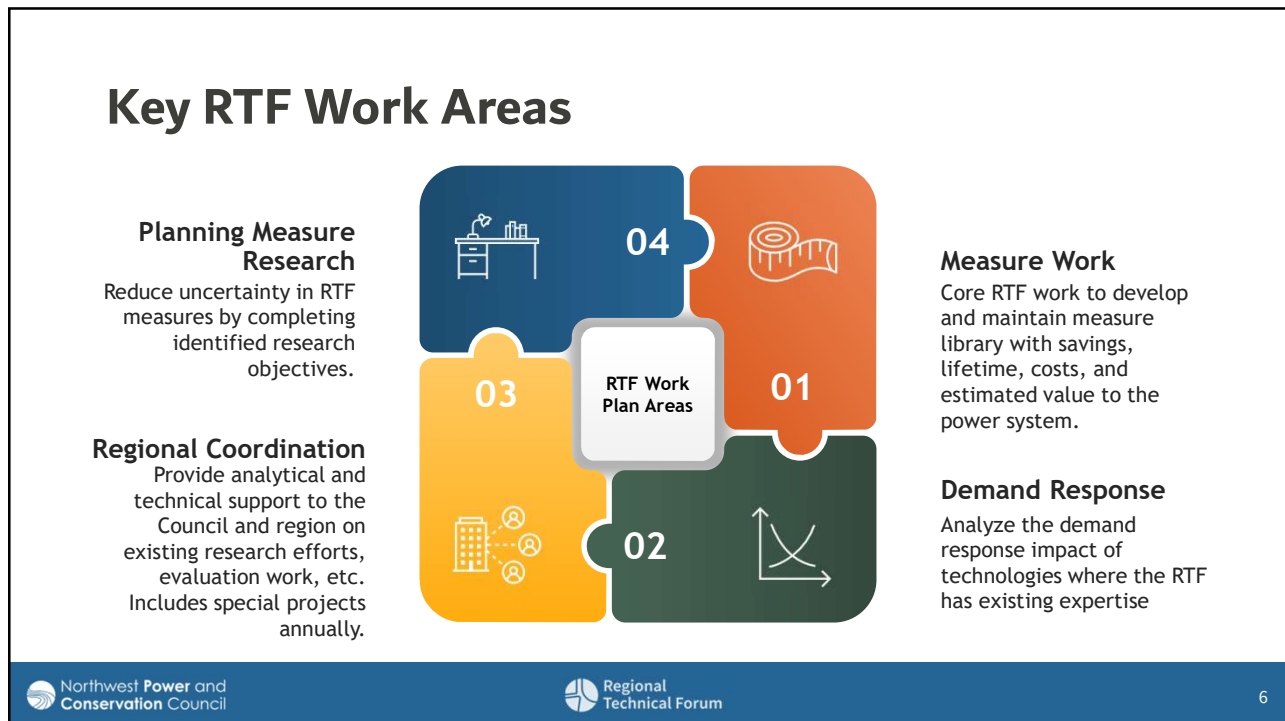
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 - A technical advisory committee to the Council established in 1999 to develop standards to verify and evaluate energy efficiency savings.
- 
 - Its work is widely used by the region, including:
 - Utility programs
 - Evaluators
 - Regulators
- 
 - Currently is comprised of 29 voting members, serving a three-year term through 2027
- 
 - Funding from the RTF is provided by Bonneville, Energy Trust of Oregon, and 16 utilities in the region, along with in kind support from the Council.

Northwest Power and Conservation Council Regional Technical Forum

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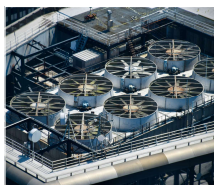


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Updating Existing Measure Portfolio

- The RTF reviewed 15 measures to ensure they continue to maintain relevance and reliability

C&I Fans



138 aMW

Photo by [Aero Semoni](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Voltage Optimization



210 aMW

Photo by [Andrey Melatos](#) on [Unsplash](#)

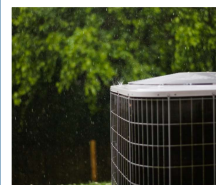
Connected Thermostats



50
million
therms

Photo by [Dan LeFebvre](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Residential AC



20 aMW

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Expanding the Measure Portfolio



53 aMW

Ductless Heat Pumps

Photo by Clay Banks on Unsplash



13 aMW and 3 MMTherms

Commercial Dishwasher

Photo by Globelet/Reusabli on Unsplash

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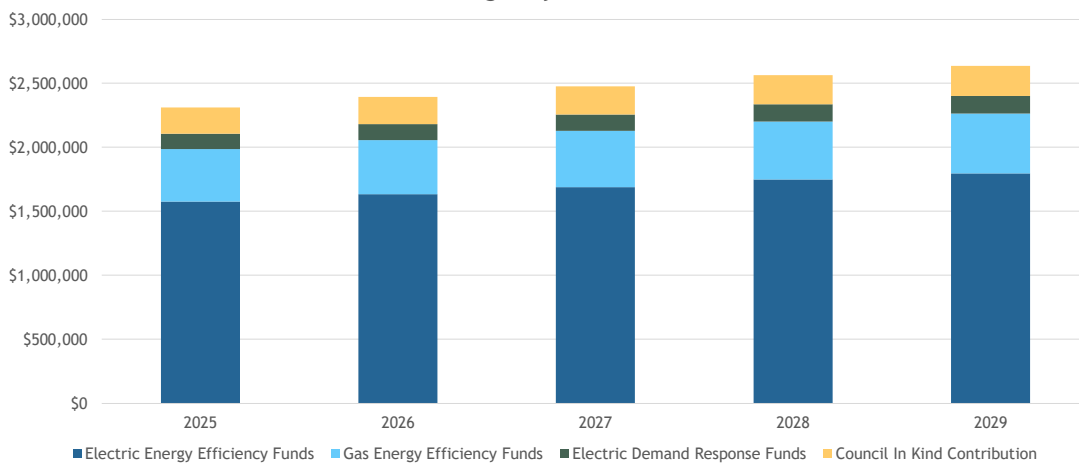
RTF Funding in 2025

- In 2024, the RTF Policy Advisory Committee secured five-year funding commitments for the RTF for 2025-2029 calendar years
- Funding sources remained consistent from the previous cycles, including natural gas energy efficiency and demand response activities
- Budget levels were developed based on ensuring the core needs of the measure library maintenance and addition of a few projects intended to support regional programs.
- Funders agreed to managing the funding as a five-year budget, allowing unspent funds to rollover to future years within this cycle.

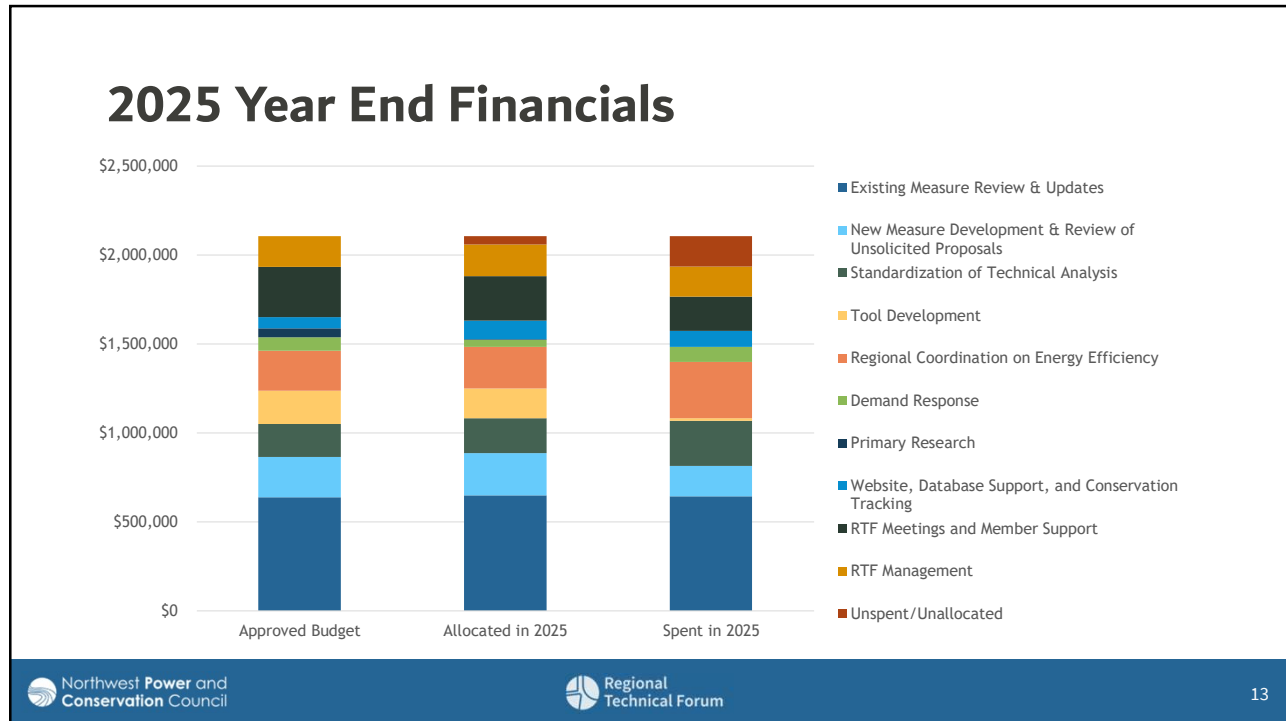
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Funding and In Kind Contributions

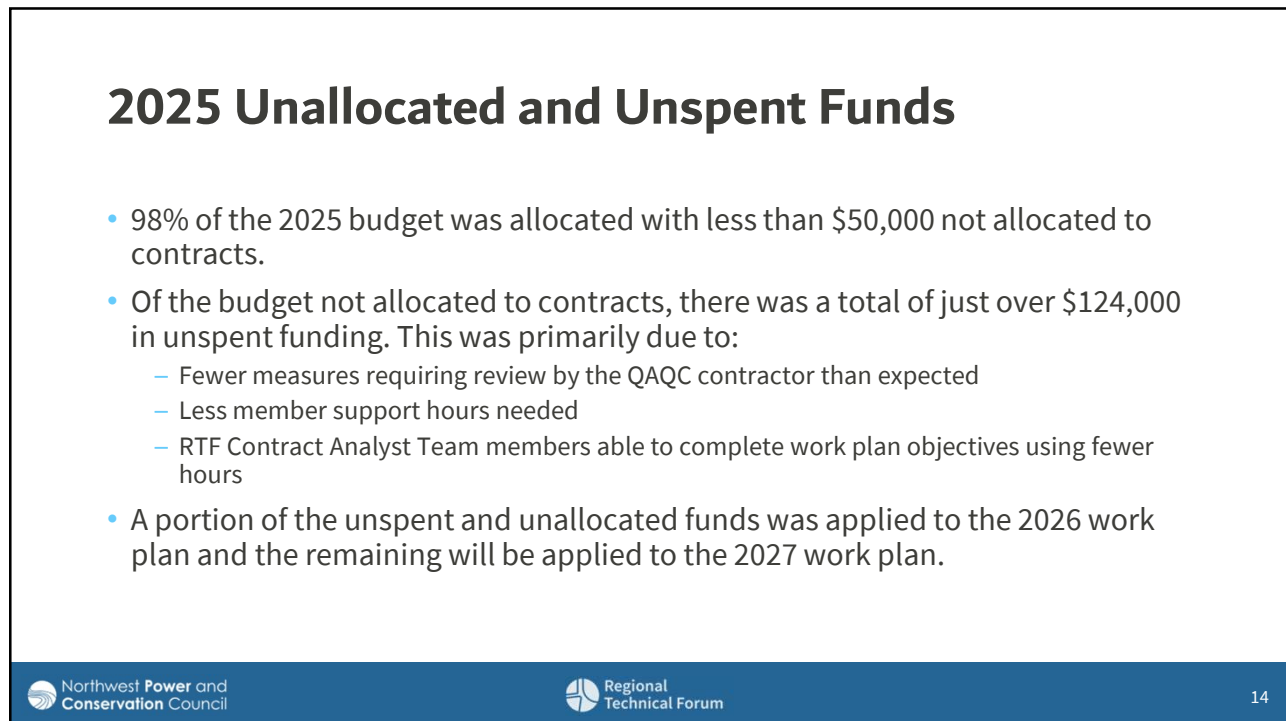
RTF Budget Cycle 2025-2029



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2026 RTF Work Highlights



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Measure Development and Updates

- Review and update 29 existing measures
- Develop 3-5 new measures, including for heat pumps, induction cooktop and ranges, and gas rooftop units



Photo by Alex Tyson on Unsplash

Demand Response

- Reviewing 4 existing demand response products
- Identifying new products to consider in the near future
- Developing increased standardization across this work



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Regional Coordination

- Supporting the region in gaining a deeper technical understanding of heat pumps through HP 101 training and resources
- Coordination with regional research on how to answer remaining heat pump research questions to support RTF measures

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