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March 2, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Power Committee

FROM: Gillian Charles, Tina Jayaweera

SUBJECT: Summary of System Integration Forum Exploration of Energy Equity in the 2021 Power Plan

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Gillian Charles, Tina Jayaweera

Summary: On February 19, 2021, the Power Division hosted a “Systems Integration Forum” (SIF) to explore how the Council might integrate concepts of energy equity into the 2021 Plan, as well as in future work. For this forum, we hired two facilitators with expertise in energy and equity, Marti Frank and Hassan Shaban, to assist in developing the agenda and guiding the discussion. There were over 100 attendees at the forum and feedback to date has been largely very positive.

Staff will provide an overview of the forum, overall organization, themes, and topics covered. We will also share early learnings, recognizing the key take-aways from the forum are still being ascertained.

Relevance: Section 4(e)(2) of the Power Act stipulates that “the plan shall set forth a general scheme for implementing conservation measures and developing resources...with due consideration by the Council for (A) *environmental quality*, (B) compatibility with the existing regional power system, (C) protection, mitigation, and enhancement of fish and wildlife and related spawning grounds and habitat..., and (D) *any other criteria* which may be set forth in the plan” [emphasis added] and Section 6(k) provides that the

Administrator shall “insure that the benefits under this section [Section 6]...*are distributed equitably* throughout the region” [emphasis added].

Workplan: A.2. Draft written material for the Power Plan

Background: Over the fall of 2019, Council staff hosted several advisory committee meetings ([DRAC](#), [CRAC](#), [GRAC](#), as well as soliciting input via email for the DFAC and NGAC) exploring diversity, equity, and inclusion across the topic areas. Summary of these meetings were summarized in [December at the Power Committee](#). A SIF is an opportunity to bring stakeholders from multiple advisory committees and other interests together in a single venue.

More Info: The agenda, speaker bios, meeting recordings, session work products, and other information is available on the Council's website: <https://www.nwcouncil.org/meeting/sif-2021-power-plan-and-dei-february-19-2021>

Summary of System Integration Forum Exploration of Energy Equity in the 2021 Power Plan

Power Committee - March 9, 2021

Gillian Charles and Tina Jayaweera



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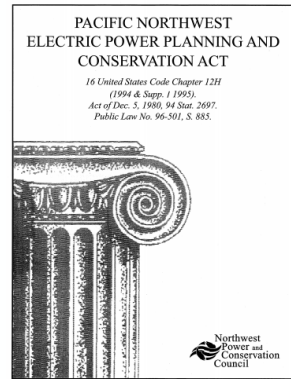
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ENERGY FUTURE

Why a System Integration Forum (SIF)

- Advisory committee members expressed interest regarding the consideration of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) for the plan
- Needed a cross-cutting forum for broader coordination to discuss DEI across all power planning topics
- Council staff is being responsive and facilitating – but not driving – this conversation
- Considering and incorporating DEI in power planning could be a multi-year, long-term process



Power Act and Equity



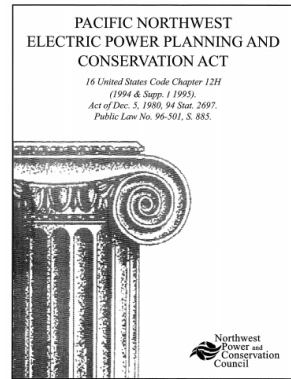
The plan shall set forth a general scheme for implementing conservation measures and developing resources pursuant to section 6 of this Act to reduce or meet the Administrator's obligations *with due consideration* by the Council for (A) *environmental quality*, (B) compatibility with the existing regional power system, (C) protection, mitigation, and enhancement of fish and wildlife and related spawning grounds and habitat, including sufficient quantities and qualities of flows for successful migration, survival, and propagation of anadromous fish, and (D) *other criteria which may be set forth in the plan.* (4e2)



Emphasis added for effect

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Power Act and Equity



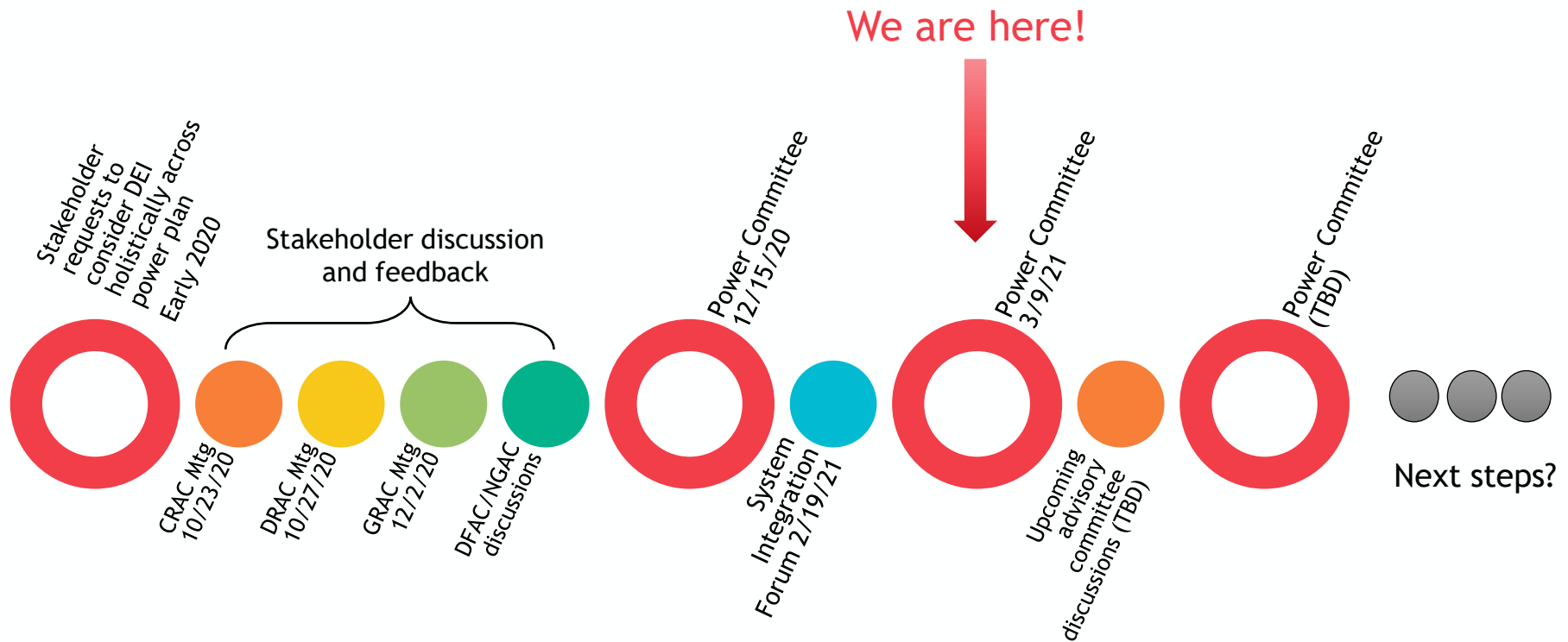
“In the exercise of his authorities pursuant to this section [that is, all of Section 6], the Administrator shall, consistent with the provisions of this Act and the Administrator's obligations to particular customer classes, *insure that benefits under this section*, including financial and technical assistance, conduct of conservation demonstrations, and experimental projects, services, and billing credits, *are distributed equitably throughout the region.*”



Emphasis added for effect

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Timeline of DEI Discussions: Where we are and where we are going



2/19 SIF Agenda

Energy Equity 101
Key Terms and Concepts

9:20

Envisioning An Equitable Energy System

9:30

Framing The Day's Conversation
The Council's Purview and Activities

10:00

Break 10.20 - 10.30

Seeing the Forest for the Trees
Structural Barriers to Equity in our Energy System

10:30



Lunch Break 11.30-12.00

The Equity Toolbox

Data, Processes and Tools to Facilitate Equity Thinking.
Part 1: Guest Speakers.

12:00

Break 12.50 - 1.00

The Equity Toolbox

Data, Processes and Tools to Facilitate Equity Thinking.
Part 2: Breakout Group Brainstorming.

1:00



Next Steps and Closing Questions

2:15

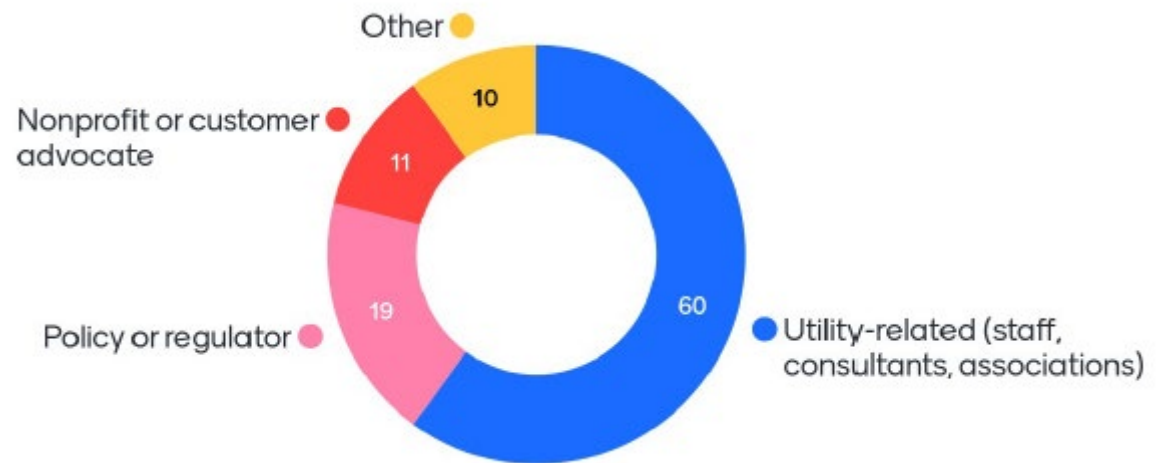


Check out the SIF agenda [page](#) on the Council's website for more resources from the forum

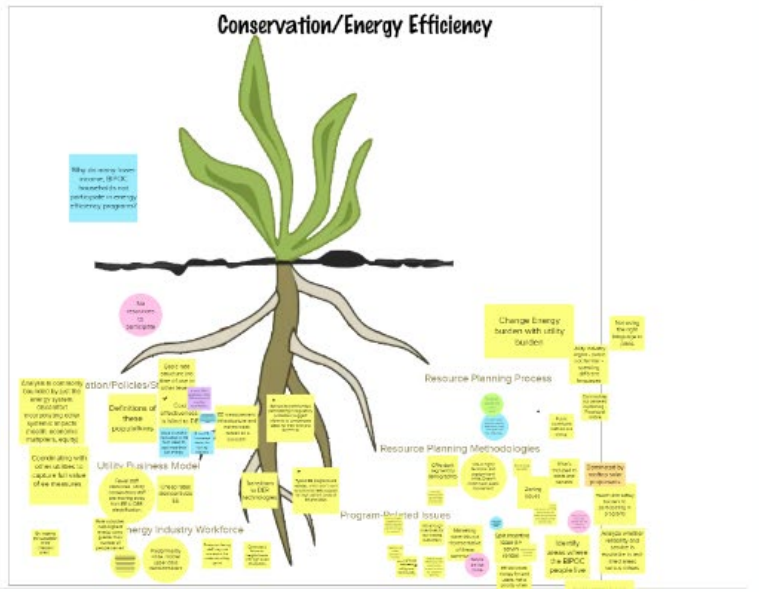
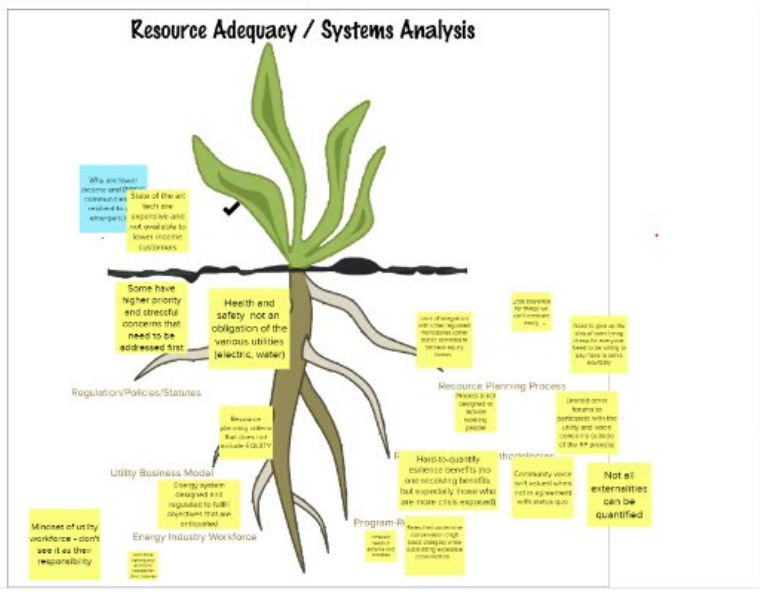
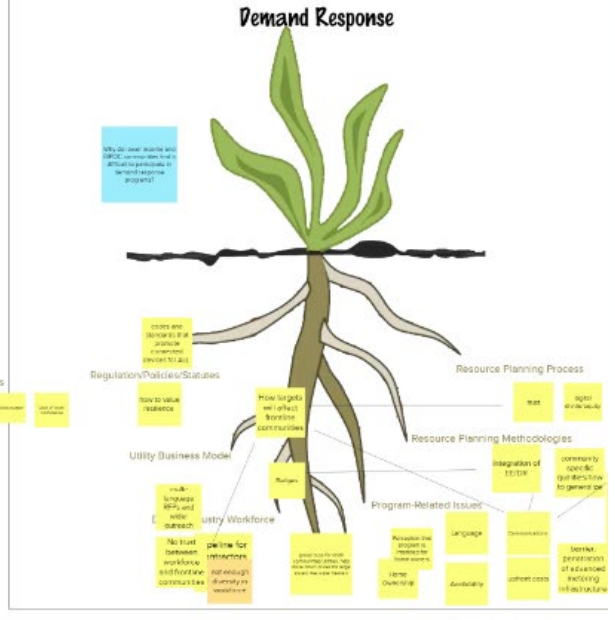
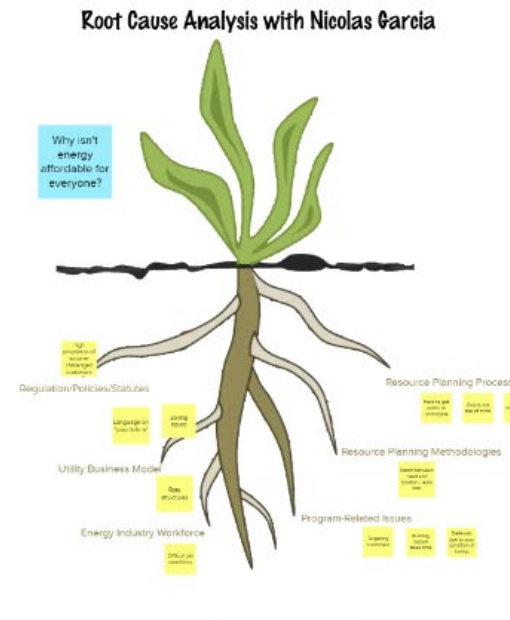
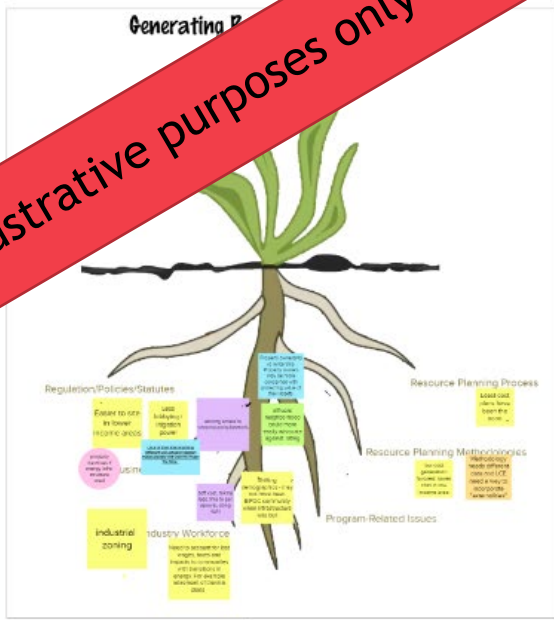
Participation – 130 unique attendees

- Bonneville
- State energy offices, public utility commissions
- Public utilities, PPC, WPUUDA
- IOUs – electric and gas
- NEEA, ETO
- PNUCC
- PNNL
- Consultants
- Advocates

Attendee poll - How would you describe your work?



Illustrative purposes only



[Link to explore details](#)

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Illustrative purposes only

Generating Resources/Natural gas

Tools: 1.20 - 1.40

1.20

Challenges



Ideas

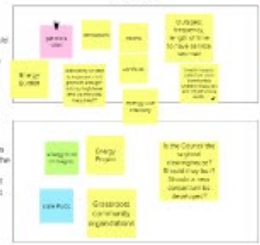


Challenges



Data: 1.40 - 2.00

Ideas



Challenges



Demand Response/Resource Adequacy/Systems Analysis

Data: 1.20 - 1.40

Tools: 1.00 - 1.20

Ideas



Challenges



Ideas



Challenges



Process: 1.40 - 2.00

Ideas



Challenges



Conservation/Demand Forecasting

Process: 1.20 - 1.40

Data: 1.00 - 1.20

Challenges



Ideas



Challenges



Tools: 1.40 - 2.00

Ideas



Challenges



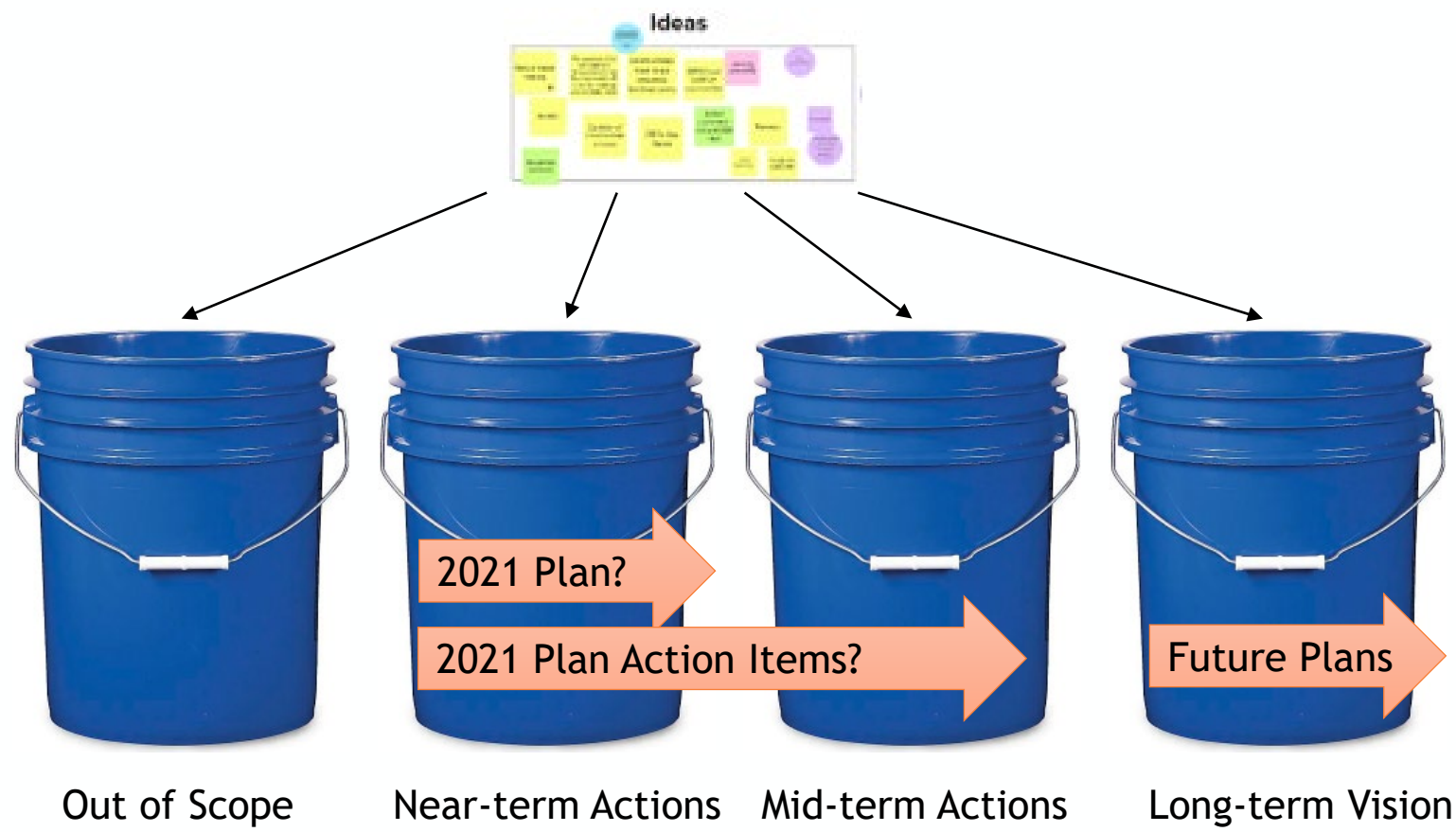
[Link to explore details](#)

Themes we heard



In progress...

Distilling and Prioritizing Ideas



Now what?



Next steps:

- In progress: Staff prioritizing ideas for further discussions amongst advisory committees
- Memo from facilitators summarizing key takeaways (expected mid-March)
- Future Council Meeting (TBD) to discuss synthesis of recommendations for Council consideration in the power plan

