CLEAN ENERGY SITING COUNCIL SUMMARY

Date: January 8, 2025, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Council Co-leads: *Ecology:* Joenne McGerr, Diane Butorac, Brenden McFarland, Alex Shin, Amelia Fujikawa; *Commerce:* Glenn Blackmon, Dan Siemann, Eli King, Bill Drumheller, Valerie Smith
Council members: *DAHP:* Allyson Brooks; *DNR:* Jim Woodward, Natalie Waid; *EFSEC:* Stewart Henderson, Lisa McLean, Ami Hafkemeyer; *EJ Council:* Jonathan Chen; *GOIA:* Craig Bill; *GOV:* Becky Kelley; *ORIA:* Dan McConnon; *UTC:* Payton Swinford; *WDFW:* Ben Blank; *WSDA:* Julia Terlinchamp; *WSDOT:* Ahmer Nizam

Welcome and introductions

The January meeting was a hybrid meeting at Ecology's headquarters. Council members did an icebreaker activity followed by a round of introductions. The Council also recognized departing members Craig Bill and Becky Kelley.

Nuclear fusion and fission regulations and projects

Lisa McLean, Legislative and Policy Manager/Tribal Liaison at EFSEC, and Bill Drumheller, Senior Energy Policy Specialist at Commerce, provided presentations on nuclear fusion and fission regulations and projects in Washington state. EFSEC provided an overview of Fusion Energy Workgroup's initial report to the legislature directed by Substitute house Bill 1924 *Promoting the integration of fusion technology with state clean energy policies*. EFSEC and the Department of Health led the group in identifying and evaluating new and existing permitting, siting, licensing, and registration pathways for producing fusion energy. The workgroup concluded that additional clarity in state law is needed to address the differences between fusion energy facilities and traditional nuclear fission power facilities. EFSEC introduced agency request legislation for the 2025 legislative session that would clarify EFSEC's siting role for nuclear fusion energy facilities and allow nuclear fusion energy facilities to opt into the EFSEC process.

The presentation also included information on potential nuclear projects in Washington state, particularly in central Washington, including nuclear fusion projects and nuclear fission small modular reactor projects (SMRs). The group discussed the emerging technologies and need for additional data on the construction and operations of potential projects, as well as the types of emissions. Data on the materials used will also be critical to understanding these technologies. The federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission is responsible for design review, certification, and oversight of SMRs. EFSEC provides oversight of the construction and siting of SMRs in Washington.

Legislative session updates

Agencies discussed clean energy issues in preparation for the 2025 legislative session and Council coordination during session.

Agency updates

Agencies provided updates on clean energy work planned for the upcoming year.

ACTION ITEMS			
Responsible	**Action**	**Start Date**	**Due Date**
All	Review new administration briefing document	1/8/2025	1/13/2025