CLEAN ENERGY SITING COUNCIL SUMMARY

Date: April 10, 2024, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Council Co-leads:
Ecology: Joenne McGerr, Brenden McFarland, Abbey Wellemeyer, Alex Shin, Lila Costello
Commerce: Michael Furze, Brian Young, Nora Hawkins, Dan Siemann, Glenn Blackmon, Monica Bramble, Aaron Peterson
Council members: *DAHP:* Allyson Brooks; DFW: Ben Blank; DNR*:* Natalie Waid; *EFSEC:* Stewart Henderson, Lisa McLean; *EJ Council:* Christy Hoff; *ORIA:* Dan McConnon; *UTC:* Payton Swinford; *WSDA:* Gary Bahr; *WSDOT:* Gretchen Coker
Guests: Eric Christensen, Beveridge & Diamond PC

MEETING SUMMARY

Overview of draft Permitting Reform Report
Eric Christensen from Beveridge & Diamond PC presented an overview of their draft independent evaluation of state agency siting and permitting processes for clean energy projects, as required by the legislature (HB1216 Sec. 102 (3)(a)(i)(A)). Commerce will send the draft report to Siting Council members on Friday, April 12 for review and feedback due April 26. The final report is due to the Legislature and Governor by July 1, 2024.

Preparation for legislative report
Dan Siemann, COM, reviewed the timeline for drafting and reviewing the Siting Council's first annual legislative report, which is due October 1. Report production will occur primarily in April and May, and the Council's review of the first draft will occur June 10-June 24. Dan also reviewed a status table of tasks identified in HB1216, and a questionnaire and asked Council members to complete these by April 29.

Agency updates

- COM is leading the Rural Clean Energy Report for Commerce with Ross Strategic (required by HB1216). Requesting participation in a 90-minute focus group with about six (6) staff from AGR, DNR, DFW, and ECY. DAHP and EFSEC will be interviewed separately.
- EFSEC's Transmission PEIS work has begun.
- Several agencies are interested to learn more about early engagement opportunities with Tribes.

Next steps and action items

ACTION ITEMS			
Responsible	**Action**	**Start Date**	**Due Date**
ALL	Provide feedback on Permitting Reform Report	4.12.2024	4.26.2024
ALL	Complete questionnaire and task table	4.10.2024	4.29.2024

WDFW, DNR, Ecology, WSDA	To participate in a focus group for the Rural Clean Energy study (HB 1216, Sec. 307)	ASAP	4.30.2024