CLEAN ENERGY SITING COUNCIL SUMMARY

Date: June 10, 2026, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Council Co-leads:
Ecology: Joenne McGerr, Diane Butorac, Alex Shin, Amelia Fujikawa, Marissa Smith
Commerce: Nora Hawkins, Talia Mirel, Aaron Peterson, Ben Serr, Deanah Watson, Aidan Garrity
Council members: *DAHP:* Allyson Brooks; *DNR:* Zoe Mullendore, Jim Woodward; *EFSEC:* Lisa McLean, Keith Quinata; *EJ Council:* Jonathan Chen; *GOV:* Kate Brouns; *UTC:* Payton Swinford, Heather Moline; *WSDOT:* Ahmer Nizam, Gretchen Coker

The June meeting was a hybrid meeting at Ecology's headquarters. Council members did an icebreaker activity followed by a round of introductions with Ecology's director, Casey Sixkiller. Director Sixkiller provided opening remarks.

Governor's Executive Order 25-11

Nora Hawkins, Commerce, shared an update on the Joint Clean Energy Acceleration Team and the current wind and solar project list and the council discussed policy level issues and lessons learned.

Overburdened communities engagement framework for transmission planning

Aidan Garrity, Commerce, presented a new initiative related to transmission planning. Under Senate Bill 5167 (2025), Commerce is engaging with communities to create a framework and process to support early and ongoing overburdened community input for the planning and development of transmission corridors.

Two community involvement sessions were held in April and one Tribal session was held in May. Future workshops are being planned, as well as engagement with transmission developers and Tribal affiliates. Commerce will continue this work through the summer of 2027 and will provide ongoing updates to the council.

Environmental justice toolkit workgroup update

Amelia Fujikawa, Ecology, provided an update on the Environmental Justice Toolkit for Clean Energy Projects. This will build upon Commerce's Environmental Justice Toolkit for hydrogen project developers and expand the recommendations and best practices to be applicable to more clean energy project types. The council workgroup is defining the toolkit's scope, identifying target audiences, and exploring ways to improve usability and accessibility. A public workshop on June 24 will introduce the toolkit concept and gather early feedback. The workgroup is also holding a Tribal forum and meeting with other interested parties. A comment period on the first toolkit draft is planned for late summer 2026.

Governor's Office update

Kate Brouns, Governor's Office, updated the council on executive ideas connected to the council's past and current draft recommendations.

Council strategic visioning

Council members participated in an interactive exercise lead by Alex Shin, Ecology, to begin developing the council's long-term strategic vision, goals, and measures of success. This first exercise looked at long-term goals for responsible and effective clean energy siting and permitting and considered how those goals are reflected in the council's recommendations and annual reports. Additional visioning sessions are planned for future council meetings.

Annual report updates

Talia Mirel, Commerce, provided updates and key dates surrounding the council's legislative report drafting process. The draft recommendations were released for a 30-day comment period on May 29. The comment period closes on June 28 at 11:59 p.m. The council held a Tribal question and answer session on the draft recommendations on June 8 and a session for interested parties is planned for June 17. The council will consider this feedback when preparing the legislative report, which is due October 1.

ACTION ITEMS			
Responsible	**Action**	**Start Date**	**Due Date**
All	Provide info for Siting Council Annual Report	March 19	June 11