CLEAN ENERGY SITING COUNCIL SUMMARY

Date: June 11, 2025, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Council Co-leads:
Ecology: Joenne McGerr, Diane Butorac, Alex Shin, Amelia Fujikawa
Commerce: Glenn Blackmon, Dan Siemann, George Lynch, Valerie Smith
Council members: *DAHP:* Allyson Brooks; *DNR:* Kate Dean, Jim Woodward; *EFSEC:* Sonia Bumpus; Lisa McLean; *EJ Council:* Sierra Rotakhina, Jonathan Chen; *GOIA:* JT Austin; *GOV:* Kate Brouns; *UTC:* Payton Swinford, Heather Moline; *WDFW:* Ben Blank; *WSDA:* Julia Terlinchamp

Panel discussion: County representatives and clean energy developers
The Council hosted a panel discussion with two county representatives and two clean energy developers. Panelists were Commissioner Amanda McKinney, Board of Yakima County Commissioners; Jim Anderson-Cook, Director, Grant County Development Services; John Hanks, Director of Development, Cypress Creek Renewables; and Shane Roche, Development Manager, Steelhead/Vestas. Panelists shared experiences, challenges, and suggestions for improving the processes, policies and outcomes of clean energy siting and permitting. Topics included state and local permitting authorities, permitting timelines, and developers' preference for predictability during the permitting process. The panel provided input on transmission challenges, and community opposition to clean energy proposals. They also discussed how the high volume of clean energy proposals at the local level and limited Tribal engagement and capacity to review projects impacts the overall development timeline.

Governor's Office update

Kate Brouns (Governor's Office) reported that the recent Climate Commitment Fund auction generated more revenue than expected. However, the fiscal outlook for the state is currently uncertain due to federal tariffs and other economic variables. The Governor's office also initiated a workgroup to study the potential impacts of data centers and develop recommendations reflecting Gov. Ferguson's Executive Order 25-05 and meetings are ongoing.

Annual report and engagement plans
The Council reviewed draft recommendation topics for the Council's annual legislative report, which is due October 1. Draft recommendation topics will be released for public comment in July.

The Council also discussed methods for engaging with Tribes and interested parties. A draft tribal engagement plan will be shared with tribes for feedback soon, and an engagement plan for interested parties will be posted on the Council's webpage for awareness.

ACTION ITEMS			
Responsible	**Action**	**Start Date**	**Due Date**
Co-leads	Refine draft recommendations ideas; prepare for public comment period	6/11	7/9