

# Low Carbon Energy Project Siting Improvement Study

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# AGENDA

- Introductions
- Overview of siting study
- Role of Interagency Policy Team
- Agency Coordination
  - Other siting work
  - Lessons learned/ past studies
  - Environmental review and permitting processes
- Next steps



# Purpose of Study

As directed by the Low Carbon Fuel Standard, E3SHB 1091, Section 28:

Ecology, in coordination with Commerce and other agencies, will develop recommendations for potential improvements to the permitting processes for industrial projects and facilities in Washington that would contribute to achieving greenhouse gas emissions limits established under RCW 70A.45.020 while maintaining standards for the protection of the environment and the preservation of tribal consultation and treaty rights.

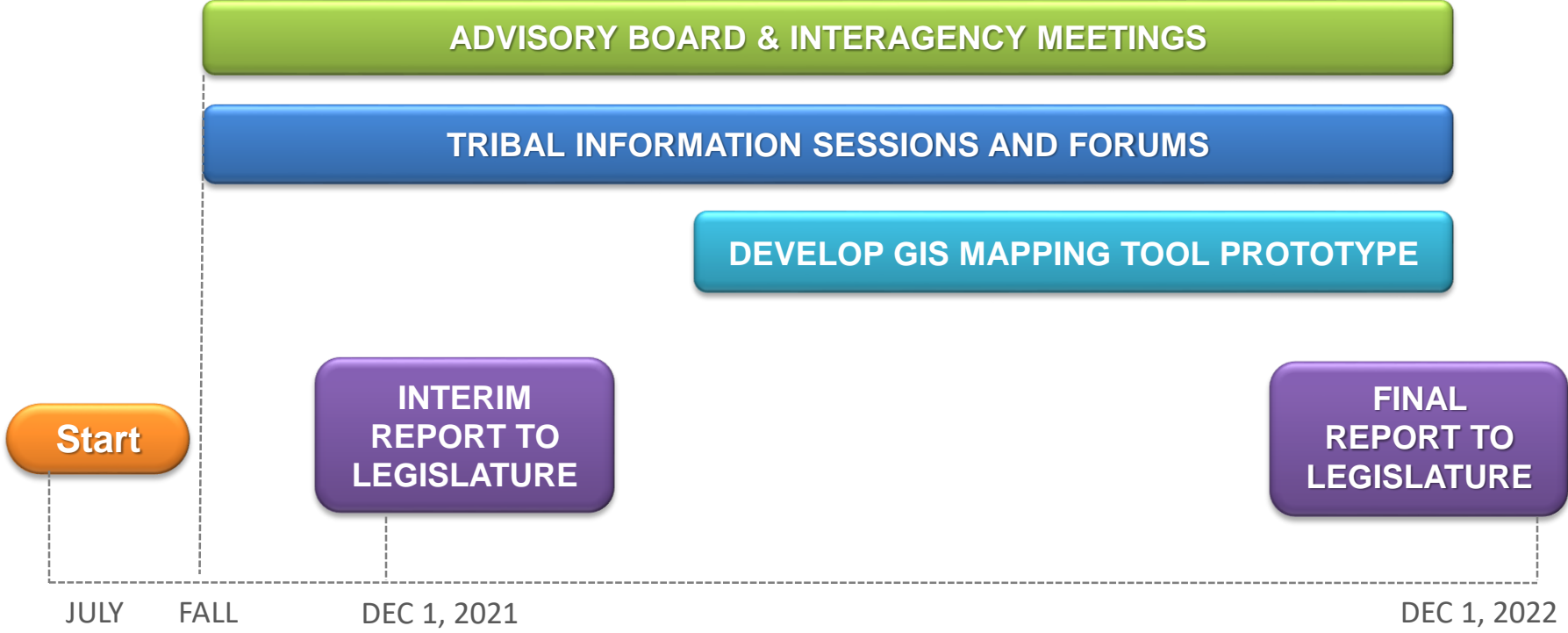


# Approach

Partnership approach with Ecology's Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program and Air Quality Program, Commerce, and the Governor's Office to engage with agencies and interested stakeholders and consult with tribes for the study and to develop the legislative reports.



# Timeline



# FOCUS OF STUDY

- Identify systemic issues:
  - Siting of projects
  - Environmental review and permitting processes
  - Tribal sovereignty, treaty rights and cultural resources
  - Consideration for highly impacted communities



# FOCUS OF STUDY

- Industrial clean energy facilities and projects:
  - Biorefineries and biofuel refineries
  - Manufacturers of core components for solar and battery power
  - Solar and wind farms
  - Hydro and battery storage facilities
  - Green hydrogen facilities
  - Offshore energy facilities (wind, tidal)



# ENGAGEMENT

- Interagency policy team
- Advisory board
  - Representative stakeholders
  - Tribal representatives
- Tribal information sessions and forums
- Public informational meetings
- Transparent public outreach
- Online comment site





# Interagency Policy Team

- Ecology (co-lead)
- Commerce (co-lead)
- DAHP
- DNR
- EFSEC
- GOIA
- Governor's Office
- ORIA
- WDFW
- WSDA
- WSDOT
- UTC



# IPT Member Expectations

- Attend all meetings (lead or alternate)
- Prepare for meetings
- Coordinate within your organization
- Review/comment on documents by the due date
- Identify issues in advance



# IPT Objectives

- Environmental review and permitting processes
  - Describe processes
  - Identify issues
  - Identify opportunities and roadblocks
- Identify other siting work
- Provide clarity on areas in the state that may be suitable for siting projects



# IPT Objectives

- Identify how to provide guidance and direction to improve project proposals
- Identify policy and administrative improvements to permitting processes
- Determine additional studies
- Provide support for prototype mapping tool



# IPT Leads and Alternates

- Each agency has been asked to identify a lead and alternate for the IPT
- These will be the agency representatives for future coordination



# LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

- Interim Report (Dec 1, 2021)
  - Who is involved
  - What will be done to develop the report
  - Identify:
    - Other siting work
    - What we know and don't know
    - Initial list of concerns and potential opportunities
- Final Report (Dec 1, 2022)
  - Recommendations
  - Additional studies



# Information for IPT

- Email
- [Website](#)
- [IPT Webpage](#)
- [Ecomment site](#) with submitted comments



# Discussion Topics

- Other siting work
- Lessons learned/ past studies
- Environmental review and permitting processes
  - Describe processes
  - Identify issues
  - Identify opportunities and roadblocks





# Other Siting Work

- Compatible Energy Siting Assessment for wind and solar (Commerce)
- Transmission Corridors Working Group (EFSEC)
- Washington Marine Spatial Planning (Ecology)
- Future solar siting work for the Columbia Basin (WSU)
- Others?



# Past Studies/Lessons Learned

- Use past studies and lessons learned for this work
- Recommendations – internal and external
- These will be included in a database



# Environmental Review and Permitting Processes

- Agency-specific processes
- Timeline graphics
- Known issues
- Roadblocks
- Opportunities



# Future Agenda Topics (proposed)

## 2021

- Sep – Permitting/siting work
- Oct – Interim report prep
- Nov – Clean energy projects
- Dec – Siting & mapping tool

## 2022

- Jan – Permitting processes
- Feb – Environmental review
- Mar – Environmental justice
- Apr – Tribal issues & concerns
- May – Appeals process
- Jun – Policies & rules
- July – Siting issues
- Aug - Recommendations
- Sep – Recommendations
- Oct – Final report prep
- Nov – Final report



# Future Meeting Schedule

- Optimal day for recurring monthly meetings?
- More frequent meetings or work collaboratively online?



# QUESTIONS?

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