

# Low Carbon Energy Project Siting Improvement Study

Interagency Policy Team  
September 23, 2021



# AGENDA

- Introductions
- Agency updates
  - Greenhouse Gas Assessment for Projects (GAP) Rulemaking
  - Growth Management Act Washington Administrative Code Update
- Agency environmental review and permitting processes
- Other agency siting work
- Administrative items
- Action items



# Agency Updates

- Greenhouse gas assessment for projects (GAP) rulemaking
  - Diane Butorac, Ecology
- Growth Management Act Washington Administrative Code Update
  - Sarah Vorpahl, Commerce



# Environmental Review and Permitting Processes

- Does your agency have general timelines for your most common permits?
- Where are they publicly available?
- [ORIA Permit Timeliness Progress Report 2020](#)



# Environmental Review and Permitting Processes

- What resource area (where your agency has expertise) typically takes the most time to analyze in an environmental review?
- Why?



# Environmental Review and Permitting Processes

- What work could be done by the applicant in advance to improve the environmental review or permitting processes?



# Environmental Review and Permitting Processes

- What has your agency done to improve environmental review or permitting processes?



# Environmental Review and Permitting Processes

- What permits from your agency would typically be the first ones done for a clean energy project?





# Environmental Review and Permitting Processes

- What are the most commonly appealed issues in your permits?
- What are post-permit issues?



# Other Siting Work

- Preparing summary to assist Advisory Board and post online
- Will include:
  - Current agency efforts
  - Programs or studies done by other states



# Administrative Items

- Website with page for [Interagency Policy Team](#)
- Overview briefings
- Next meeting: Prepare for Interim Legislative Report due Dec. 1, 2021
  - Agencies provide additional information on questions from today by **Oct 21**



# Action Items

Responsible	Action	Start Date	Due Date
Kathleen Drew, EFSEC & Diane Butorac, ECY	Set up meeting with Ecology on streamlining application for solar projects.	8/26/21	Completed 8/31/21
Diane Butorac, ECY	Set up future meetings in 3-hour blocks.	8/26/21	Completed 9/8/21
Diane Butorac, ECY	Present update on Greenhouse Gas Assessment for Projects (GAP) rule at next meeting.	8/26/21	Completed 9/23/21
Sarah Vorpahl, COM	Provide timeline for Growth Management Act (GMA) Washington Administrative Code (WAC) update.	8/26/21	Completed 9/23/21
Sarah Vorpahl, COM	Present update on Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) work on identifying energy needs.	8/26/21	TBD



# QUESTIONS?

## Joenne McGerr, Ecology

Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program  
Manager

(360) 870-1913

## Michael Furze, Commerce

Assistant Director, Energy Division

(360) 725-2950

## Diane Butorac, Ecology

Project Manager

(360) 407-6573

