



March 14, 2024

Docket No. UM 1893: Energy Efficiency Avoided Cost Update for Use by Energy Trust of Oregon

Staff invites stakeholders to attend two separate workshops on updated energy efficiency avoided cost data used by Energy Trust of Oregon. One workshop will focus on data for gas utilities and the other for electric utilities. Prior, Staff will publish an agenda and slide deck which outlines prospective changes to avoided costs for stakeholder review. In the workshops, Energy Trust will provide a preliminary look at cost-effectiveness estimates using the data submitted by utilities in March. Staff encourages stakeholders to participate and comment on preliminary results and considerations for further review. After the workshops, Staff will recommend a set of energy efficiency costs for Commission consideration at the April 30, 2024, public meeting.

Workshop #1: Workshop for Updated Electric Avoided Costs for Use by Energy Trust of Oregon

Time: Apr 4, 2024 02:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join ZoomGov Meeting

<https://puc-oregon-gov.zoomgov.com/j/1616151408?pwd=VDh0cmw3cUFpcVZFZ3REUnVhR21tdz09>

Meeting ID: 161 615 1408

Passcode: YAwX!X5nzP

Find your local number: <https://puc-oregon-gov.zoomgov.com/u/adUoztSD5D>

Workshop #2: Workshop for Updated Gas Avoided Costs for Use by Energy Trust of Oregon

Time: Apr 8, 2024 01:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join ZoomGov Meeting

<https://puc-oregon-gov.zoomgov.com/j/1602061694?pwd=d0RGMjZmSWtKOW5xSG5TRFdCTXBnUT09>

Meeting ID: 160 206 1694

Passcode: tFC!0#4J\$K

Find your local number: <https://puc-oregon-gov.zoomgov.com/u/aCmGsKD4R>

Background

Under OAR 860-030-0011 (1), every energy utility that provides customer funds to the Energy Trust of Oregon to administer energy efficiency measures and programs, market transformation, or the above market costs of new renewable energy resources in the utility's service area is required to report data used to calculate its energy efficiency avoided costs on a form approved by the Commission by October 15 of each year. Utilities must submit data via commission approved form. Revisions to the form can only take effect no less than 60 days later. Data must generally come from the most recent IRP or general rate case, but the Commission can approve different data sources. Within 60 days of submission, the Commission must consider whether to approve submitted data for use by Energy Trust in the next year budget planning.

In 2023, per Staff's recommendation, the Commission directed utilities in Order 23-263 to file energy efficiency avoided cost reports by March 1, 2024 instead of October 15, 2023. Staff had proposed postponing the update of EE avoided costs to allow more time to consider changing planning dynamics. Staff was concerned that the most recently acknowledged IRPs were not reflecting the true extent of avoided costs while the newest IRP/CEP processes would not have concluded by October 2023. Staff also concluded that methodology changes were necessary because, among other things, avoided costs were not reflecting the true costs of acquiring energy in compliance with clean energy regulations.

Immediately following this process, Staff will launch a second process in Docket No. UM 1893 on changes to the existing methodology or existing data to better reflect avoided costs in a new policy and planning environment that was substantially changed by House Bill 2021.

References

Electric Avoided Cost Data

- Pacific Power: [RE 181](#)
- Portland General Electric: [RE 182](#)

Gas Avoided Cost Data

- Avista: [RG 85](#)
- Cascade Natural Gas: [RG 86](#)
- Northwest Natural: [RG 87](#)

Staff Contacts

If you would like to join the service list for UM 1893, email your request to puc.hearings@puc.oregon.gov. If you have questions or comments, please contact:

/s/ Peter Kernan
Peter Kernan (he, him)
Senior Utility Analyst, Resources and Programs
Oregon Public Utility Commission
Cell: (971) 428-7782
Peter.Kernan@puc.oregon.gov



Notice of Public Workshop

Staff appreciates the valuable engagement in this docket by stakeholders and looks forward to productive workshops.