



# Oregon

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## MEETING SUMMARY

**ODOE Oregon Energy Strategy Advisory Group Kick-off Meeting; July 23, 2024**

### Attendees

**Present Advisory Group members:** Aaron Orłowski, Andrew Mulkey, Cathy Ehli, Charity Fain, Christine Golightly, Cory Scott, Emily Griffith, Erin Childs, Fred Huetten, Ivy Quach, Jeffery Roy Hammarlund, Jennifer Hill-Hart, Jennifer Bies, Jimmy Lindsay, John Dietz, Joshua Basofin, Juan Barraza, Lauren Link, Mary Moerlins, Michael Colgrove, Nate Hill, Patrick Ford Mills, Rakesh Anaja, Robert Wallace, Shannon Souza, Tucker Billman

**Absent Advisory Group members:** Andrea Kreiner, Bryan Adams, Laura Tabor, Scott Simms, Timothy McMahan

**Oregon Department of Energy staff:** Janine Benner, Edith Bayer, Alan Zelenka, Andy Cameron, Bryan Hockaday, Christy Splitt, Jennifer Kalez, Jessica Reichers, Jillian DiMedio, Joni Sliger, Joshua Price, Lauren Rosenstein, Mary Kopriva, Michael Freels, Ruchi Sadhir, Todd Cornett, Abigail Reeser

**Consultant team:** Deb Nudelman (Kearns & West), Ben Duncan (Kearns & West), Gillian Garber-Yonts (Kearns & West), Nicole Metildi (Kearns & West), Eileen Quigley (CETI), Ruby Moore-Bloom (CETI)

**Number of members of the public in attendance:** 57

### Welcome and Agenda Review

Deb Nudelman, Kearns & West, opened the meeting. Janine Benner, Director of the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE), welcomed everyone to the meeting, gave an overview of ODOE's mission and vision, shared information about the launch of public engagement for the Oregon Energy Strategy, and reviewed the purpose of the Advisory Group.

Edith Bayer, ODOE, outlined the goals of the meeting:

- Establish a common understanding of the Oregon Energy Strategy, including project workflow, major milestones, and deliverables.
- Provide an opportunity for Advisory Group introductions
- Review and discuss Advisory Group Charter.
- Address upcoming meetings, next steps, and summary.

Deb reviewed the meeting agenda for the meeting and group agreements. She noted that meeting materials can be found online at the [ODOE Energy Strategy Advisory Group Webpage](https://www.oregon.gov/energy/strategy/advisory-group) and let members of the public know that they can provide written public input to ODOE by sending an email to [Energy.strategy@Energy.Oregon.gov](mailto:Energy.strategy@Energy.Oregon.gov).

Edith introduced the ODOE project team and provided a list of scheduled Working Groups set to convene over the summer. Deb led the group through introductions.

Eileen Quigley, Clean Energy Transitions Institute (CETI), introduced the CETI team, which will conduct the energy pathways analysis and will model health and economic impacts of reducing fossil fuel use.

Deb introduced the Kearns & West team, which will provide facilitation and process support throughout the project.

## Introduction to the Oregon Energy Strategy

Edith Bayer provided an overview of the Oregon Energy Strategy, which is being developed to address Oregon's energy and climate goals equitably, help ODOE choose technology pathways the best meet policy goals, and understand and balance the tradeoffs of choosing different technologies.

The Oregon Energy Strategy will include three components: A summary of the Energy Strategy and pathways to achieve Oregon's policy objectives, recommendations of policy options, and a description of stakeholder engagement and how stakeholder perspectives informed the strategy.

Edith shared what information (such as existing policies) and analysis will be considered in the development of the Energy Strategy, as well as how ODOE will engage state agencies, Tribes, and the public throughout this process.

In addition to sharing a high-level timeline for developing the Energy Strategy, Edith shared information about the Working Groups, the modeling approach, and the purpose of the Advisory Group. The Advisory Group represents a diverse range of interests, expertise, communities, and experiences. The group's main purpose is to provide insights, advice, and recommendations throughout the development of the Energy Strategy

Advisory Group members shared the following comments and questions:

- Should Advisory Group members serve on Working Groups? What is the overlap between the two?
  - *Answer: The Advisory Group and Working Groups serve different purposes. The Advisory Group will discuss similar issues as the individual Working Groups will, but at a higher level.*
- Will Working Groups make recommendations? If so, how will the Advisory Group respond to or incorporate them?
  - *Answer: At the next Advisory Group meeting, project staff will share what they heard at the Working Groups Kick-Off Meeting and ask the Advisory Group to react to what information is coming out of the Working Groups. Neither the Advisory Group nor the Working Groups will make direct recommendations to ODOE. Rather, ODOE will gather feedback heard during Advisory Group and Working Group meetings to make decisions, and report back to the Advisory Group and Working Groups on how they used their feedback. There will be an opportunity for group members to ask ODOE how they made decisions. Additionally, the Advisory Group will help ODOE consider the different*

*perspectives collected through the Working Groups and public engagement to aid ODOE in decision-makings.*

- A member commented that they were pleased to see that modeling will include five scenarios.
- Every community is unique, how will modeling capture the differences between each community?
  - *Answer: ODOE will look across the entire energy system in Oregon. The model will be informed by what has been done in the past and what information currently exists. ODOE will work with the technical team to understand what the most cost effective and reliable mix of resources is, while taking into account Oregon's energy policy objectives. The team will consider other things, like land use considerations, but the model will be a statewide energy sector-wide model. The results of the model will be used in policy discussions. At that point there will be discussions about what is happening in different communities and how we can advance energy policy objectives in specific communities.*
- What is the outreach and recruitment process for the Working Groups? Has this already happened? Who can be on the Working Groups?
  - *Answer: ODOE has sent out invitations to specific people to be on the Working Groups. Working Groups are open to the public and will be recorded, so people can listen in to the meetings. ODOE is interested in hearing from people who would like to sit on one of the working groups. ODOE encouraged Advisory Group members to help facilitate participation in this process with people in their networks. People can email Edith Bayer indicating their interest and can sign up for the Energy Strategy email list through the project website.*

## Introduction to the Advisory Group Charter

Deb Nudelman and Edith Bayer provided a high-level overview of the draft Advisory Group Charter, reviewing each section of the charter and its purpose. The charter details the Advisory Group's purpose and charge, as well as how members will work together throughout the Energy Strategy process. Deb asked the group to review the Draft Charter in detail before the next Advisory Group meeting, at which the group will seek adoption.

Advisory Group members had the following comments and questions:

- How soon will agendas be sent in advance of meetings?
  - *Answer: The project team will strive to send meeting materials a week in advance of meetings.*
- Can Advisory Group members reach out to and meet with each other outside of formal Advisory Group meetings?
  - *Answer: Yes, ODOE encourages members to meet with each other outside of formal Advisory Group meetings to better understand one another.*
- There was a suggestion to include public comment within Advisory Group meetings and not at the end of the meeting, which requires people to stay until the end of meetings.
  - *Answer: The project team will look into how public comment may fit within meetings, possibly before the break.*
- What is the time commitment for Advisory Group members, outside of monthly meetings?

- *Answer: It will range between two to sixteen hours per month, depending on where we are at in the project schedule and if members choose to listen-in to Working Group meetings. During major project milestones, the project team will ask members for feedback and review of project documents. ODOE has resources and materials on various topics if members would like to review and learn more about a topic they are unfamiliar with.*
- Who should people contact at ODOE for feedback and questions from the Advisory Group?
  - *Answer: Edith Bayer.*

Deb asked that Advisory Group members send feedback on the draft Advisory Group Charter by Friday, August 2. The group will review the revised Draft Charter at the August 14 meeting and seek adoption. Members can send comments on the Draft Charter to [energy.strategy@energy.oregon.gov](mailto:energy.strategy@energy.oregon.gov).

## Prepare for Upcoming Meetings, Next Steps, and Summary

Edith Bayer shared information for the next two meetings:

- August 14 at 9am-12pm: ODOE will provide an update on ODOE project work and public engagement to-date, seek feedback from the Advisory Group, and review and seek adoption of the Charter.
- September 9 at 9am-12pm: ODOE will provide an update on the final Working Groups, present the proposal for modeling analysis, including draft scenarios and key assumptions, and seek feedback from the Advisory Group and discuss next steps.

The project team will send a poll to schedule meetings after September. Advisory Group members are invited and encouraged to join the Working Group meeting on July 30 as audience members, or to watch the recording.

Deb Nudelman confirmed next steps for Advisory Group meetings:

- Watch the July 30 Working Group meeting recording.
- Review the Draft Charter and send any comments to ODOE by August 2.

Edith shared that the next few meetings will be virtual; however, she encouraged the group to consider having a meeting in-person in October or November. The project team will include a question about when to have an in-person meeting in the scheduling poll.

Edith and Jessica expressed appreciation for Advisory Group members and adjourned the meeting.