



## City Light Review Panel Meeting Meeting Minutes

**Date of Meeting: March 19, 2025 | 9:00 – 11:00 AM**  
**Meeting held in SMT 3204 and via Microsoft Teams APPROVED**

MEETING ATTENDANCE					
<b>Panel Members:</b>					
Leo Lam	√	Thien-Di Do	√	Oksana Savolyuk	√
Joel Paisner		Ryan Monson		Bruce Flory	√
Kerry Meade		Toyin Olowu	√		
Dawn Lindell (GM)	√	Leigh Barreca	√	Julie Ryan (Consultant /RP Facilitator)	√
Mike Haynes	√	Andrew Strong	√	Craig Smith	
Kirsty Grainger	√	DaVonna Johnson		Maura Brueger	
Julie Moore	√	Chris Ruffini	√	Angela Bertrand	√
Greg Shiring	√	Carsten Croff		Brian Taubeneck	
Eric McConaghy	√	David Logsdon	√	Bridget Molina	√
Jeff Wolf		Caia Caldwell		Brittney Garcia Stubbs	√
Siobhan Doherty	√	Karin Estby		Angela Song	√
.		David Logsdon	√	Dylan King	√

**Welcome and Introductions.** The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

**Public Comment.** There was no public comment.

### Standing Items:

**Chair's Report.** Leo Lam welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

**Review Agenda.** Julie Ryan reviewed the agenda.

**Approval of February 19, 2025, Meeting Minutes.** Minutes were approved, with one revision to fix the spelling of Bruce Flory's name.

### Communications to Panel.

- An email was received from a customer with solar panels who felt that her utility bills were too high. This issue was sent to our customer escalation team. The customer was contacted directly. She requested City Light to research her usage and billing for accuracy. Through a review of billing system and meter data, it was determined that her bills were accurate. All relevant data was provided to the customer, as well as information for all of



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the available bill assistance programs. The customer was told to contact us again if additional information is needed.

- Application materials for two candidates to fill the vacant Financial Analyst position were submitted to our City Council committee chair for review consideration and selection. This position is designated as a council appointment

### **General Manager's Update.** GM Dawn Lindell presented.

1. Trip to Washington DC – I joined hundreds of public power representatives in Washington, D.C., for the 2025 American Public Power Association (APPA) Legislative Rally, February 24 to 26. Maura Brueger, Director of Government & Legislative Affairs, and I met with lawmakers to advocate for policies to support affordable, sustainable, and reliable energy.

Maura scheduled eight meetings for us: three meetings with U.S. representatives and five meetings with staff members—two with our Washington senators and three representatives. Key issues included protecting Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) workforce, navigating evolving energy markets, preserving municipal bond tax exemptions, and supporting clean energy tax credits. We also advocated for continued federal grant funding.

Federal policies shape how we operate, influence costs, and impact the communities we serve. These policies govern everything from energy generation and the electric grid to infrastructure investment. By engaging directly with lawmakers, utilities like City Light can explain how policies affect local operations and customers and provide insight into the increasing demand for power, the ability to meet that demand, and the urgency to expand transmission infrastructure to deliver power.

During our fast-paced "speed advocacy" sessions on Capitol Hill, we also updated lawmakers on relicensing efforts for our Skagit and South Fork Tolt projects, asked for help securing grant funding for dam upgrades, and advocated for permitting reforms to streamline building and improving transmission infrastructure.

We will continue championing sustainable, affordable energy policies and defending the resilience of public power. After all, as the saying goes, "if you're not at the table, you're on the menu."

2. BPA's Market decision – BPA issued their draft market decision on Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup> indicating their preference for Market+, in spite of our best efforts to highlight the negative cost implications of this decision for our rate payers.

We are disappointed with the decision. Having two markets in the region is inefficient,



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will negatively affect consumer rates, and potentially cause adverse effects on regional greenhouse gas emissions reductions and weather response reliability, especially during extreme weather events. We remain steadfast that our customers are best served with an efficient, well connected, and integrated market.

Our understanding is BPA made this decision due to the other market's governance structure, with a Governor Appointed Board. We are working to support active legislation in California to change this structure. BPA is expected to announce their final decision in May.

3. National Tree Care Award – We are proud to share with you that we received the 2025 Tree Line USA award! This is our 12th year in a row receiving this award from the Arbor Day Foundation. This recognition celebrates our dedication to protecting urban trees while providing reliable electricity service. Tree Line USA honors utilities that meet top standards for managing trees and power lines.

Last year, we participated in an Arbor Day event by planting 10 new trees in Beacon Hill near the Chief Sealth Trail and Snoqualmie P-Patch. This project brought fresh greenery to our shared spaces.

4. Hydropower Leadership Award - The Northwest Hydroelectric Association (NWhA) held its annual conference in Seattle in the last week of February. More than 450 industry professionals gathered to share knowledge and discuss the latest developments and challenges related to hydropower generation. For more than a century, hydropower has been a vital energy source for the Pacific Northwest and beyond. This commitment to sustainability allowed us to become the first large utility to achieve 100% carbon neutrality—back in 2005! We've been leading the way for two decades, and it's thanks to the hard work and dedication of our team. Hydropower is key in balancing the grid and meeting the rising demand for electricity. As we aim for a more electrified society, having reliable and flexible energy sources becomes increasingly important.

At the heart of our commitment to hydropower is our dedication to caring for the environment. Chief Operating Officer Mike Haynes exemplifies this commitment and was recognized with the Northwest Hydroelectric Association's 2025 Pamela E. Klatt Award, which honors individuals for their leadership and service contributions to the Northwest hydroelectric industry. The Pamela E. Klatt award, named in memory of the environmental planner and long-time NWhA board member, recognizes individuals who make a lasting impact on the hydropower industry. Mike's career reflects these values, and his leadership continues to shape the future of hydropower in the Pacific Northwest. Congratulations, Mike!



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**Q: Do you feel that your lobbying was successful regarding BPA's workforce reduction?**

**A:** Yes, it was successful. At one point, BPA lost 400 staff. The first 14 were DEI based jobs – these positions have not been restored. They also lost 220 staff due to the early buy-out option, including a lot of positions in the field and in craft positions that will be hard to replace. City Light did offer mutual aid, as well as several other northwest utilities. Over 90 just-hired employees had their offers rescinded and 60 of them had their offers reinstated. Probationary employees less than one year in the job (which included those who had been promoted to a new role within the agency), were also laid off. Most of them were reinstated into their positions. The net of that is the loss of the 14 DEI staff and 220 employees who took the buy-out.

**Q: Are the employees that took the buy-out at risk of not getting paid?**

**A:** I don't think so. Their salaries are in BPA's budget, so they will be paid. The message we gave legislators is it saves taxpayers **zero dollars** to eliminate staff at BPA since BPA's expenses are recovered in their rates.

**Transportation Electrification Strategic Investment Plan (TESIP).** David Logsdon began the presentation and introduced Angela Song. The presentation is in the meeting packet.

**Q: There's a lot of elements of charging and public access charging; could you explain how we're providing charging to people along the street?**

**A:** There are a few different designs including pole mounted and pedestal mount chargers. There are a few applications that people can use to show where all the chargers are and if they are currently in use. One example is PlugShare. We also have info on our website and locations, with an interactive tool.

**Q: How much does it cost to park and charge?**

**A:** For Level 2 chargers, the cost is \$0.21 per KW, for fast charges, it is closer to \$0.41. Users do not pay to park for our chargers, and we pride ourselves on having lower rates than our competitors.

**Q: Do you have time of use charging rates?**

**A:** Yes, we had a pilot, and we are working on including that in our new time of use rates that are rolling out soon.

City Light staff offered to send to the Review Panel the EV charging explanation sheet that the utility provides customers at community events.

**10-year Roadmap Update and Input.** Angela Bertrand led this exercise. Presentation materials are in the meeting packet.

**Integrated Communications Plan.** Dylan King presented. Presentation materials are in the meeting



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packet.

**Q: What are examples of groups you are meeting with?**

**A:** We are working with a lot of advisory councils, such as the Indigenous Advisory Group as well as tabling at the P-Patch Community event Department of Neighborhoods is hosting. We are using a literature review to identify whose voice we haven't heard from and are making sure we find a path to hear their needs.

**Q: How do you follow up with community members? Are you reaching people by email or just connecting with the event manager?**

**A:** Both. We use mass communications as well as other channels. We are trying to create a relationship so they will invite us in.

**April Agenda.** The next meeting will include updates on the development of the 10-year roadmap, and a Time of Use program presentation. Staff invited the Panel Members to let them know if there are other programs that Review Panel members would like to hear about.

**Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

**Next meeting:** April 16, 2025, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.