

Background

This document provides a high-level update of monthly implementation activities for the [Environmental Sustainability Action Plan \(ESAP\)](#). The ESAP is the City's strategic roadmap to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and enhance Redmond's natural resources for future generations.

The overarching ESAP priorities for 2021-2022 include:

1. Prioritize improvements to **city operations** as Redmond works towards the goal of carbon neutrality for city operations by 2030 in support of the Climate Emergency Declaration.
2. Advance **key sustainability priorities**, including those integrated into the 2021-2022 budget.
3. Leverage **partnerships and communications** strategies to engage the community.
4. Establish **foundational systems** and programs for the newly formed Sustainability Program.

Programmatic Updates

City Operations

- Fleet Governance Team: The City formed a Fleet Governance structure, consisting of subject matter experts, fleet management staff, and City leadership to support the ongoing management and oversight of the City's fleet. The Governance Team will also be crucial in the development and implementation of initiatives targeted at making progress on the City's carbon reduction goals. Current efforts include implementing a green fleet purchasing policy, investments in electric vehicles and charging infrastructure, and a fleet utilization analysis.

Key Priorities

- HB 1099 Seattle Times Op-Ed: Mayor Birney and Councilmember Kristiana de Leon from Black Diamond co-authored a [Seattle Times Op-Ed](#) encouraging legislators to pass HB 1099, a bill that would require climate planning as part of Comprehensive Plan updates. The legislative session ended on March 10 and HB 1099 did not pass.
- Puget Sound Energy Clean Energy Implementation Plan comment letter: Mayor Birney signed onto a King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) comment letter encouraging the Utilities and Transportation Commission to address concerns in Puget Sound Energy's Clean Energy Implementation Plan. The letter (Exhibit A) calls on PSE to accelerate the clean energy transition and align energy planning and analysis with the goals of the Clean Energy Transformation Act.
- State Building Code Council (SBCC) comment letter: Mayor Birney signed onto a K4C comment letter (Exhibit B) encouraging the SBCC to adopt proposed commercial and multi-family energy efficiency, electrification, renewable energy, and other sustainability-related code language. The updated language would support the state's Energy Strategy and directly implement key ESAP actions. The SBCC heard public testimony on March 11 and will discuss the proposed changes in late March.
- Free Community Shredding Event: The City sponsored a free shredding event that was open to all Redmond Residents on March 20 from 9-1. The final participation rates and material recycled will be highlighted in the next update.

- Climate Vulnerability Assessment: The draft Climate Vulnerability Assessment and Index were open for public comment through March 9. Staff and the consultant team are reviewing the comments and making changes to the Assessment prior to finalizing the document in April.
**Climate Emergency Declaration objective*

Partnerships & Communication

- Eastside Cities Heat Pump Collaboration: Eastside cities continued discussion with Spark Northwest, PSE, Imagine Housing, and other community partners to explore a collaborative residential energy conservation campaign, likely with an emphasis on heat pumps. Next steps include contracting and establishing incentive structures. A potential campaign launch is planned for this summer.
- Earth Month Activities: In preparation for Earth Month, staff are organizing an assortment of opportunities for community members to reduce their environmental impact. Those efforts will be highlighted starting April 4 and will be featured on the City's website and throughout the month of April via social media and eNews.
- Redmond Climate Action Challenge: The Challenge will be launching a Team Leader training in April to support deeper engagement and build additional participation in the platform. To learn more or join the Challenge, visit <https://redmondclimatechallenge.org/>.

Sustainability Program

- Sustainability Data Dashboard: Staff reviewed the sustainability data dashboard with the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee sub-committee to solicit feedback and inform next steps. Staff will review the data dashboard with Council during the March 22 PES COW meeting. **Climate Emergency Declaration objective*
- Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee: Multiple ESAC sub-committees convened during the month of March to support continued progress on key priorities including the data dashboard and communications, as well as green building and EV charging. The next meeting with the full committee is scheduled for March 24 from 5:30-7 PM.

Q1 and Q2 Council Engagement

Meeting Date	Topic	Meeting	Status
2/8/2022	Redmond Zoning Code Update	Study Session	Complete
2/15/2022	Waste Reduction Grant Awards - Department of Ecology's Local Solid Waste Financial Assistance (LSWFA) Grant	Business Meeting	Complete
2/22/2022	Climate Vulnerability Assessment	Study Session	Complete
4/5/2022	Tree Regulations	Business Meeting	Scheduled

Exhibit A



King County



March 1, 2022

Chair David W. Danner
Commissioner Jay Belasbas
Commissioner Ann Rendahl
c/o Amanda Maxwell, Executive Director and Secretary
Utilities and Transportation Commission
621 Woodland Square Loop SE
Lacey, WA 98503

RE: Puget Sound Energy 2021 Clean Energy Implementation Plan, Docket UE-210795

Dear Chair Danner, Commissioner Belasbas and Commissioner Rendahl:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Puget Sound Energy's (PSE) 2021 Clean Energy Implemental Plan (CEIP). We respectfully submit these comments as elected officials representing more than 2.25 million residents in King County and five cities, many of them PSE customers.

Confronting climate change and accelerating a transition to a clean energy economy is a priority for King County and our partner jurisdictions in the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) representing over 80 percent of the county's 2.25 million residents. Through the Growth Management Planning Council, 39 cities and King County have established shared, formal targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50 percent by 2030 and 95 percent by 2050. Members of the K4C have charted out specific commitments needed to meet these targets, including phasing out coal-fired electricity sources by 2025, limiting construction of new natural-gas fired electricity generation plants, and increasing renewable electricity use to 90 percent by 2030. King County's 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan lays out priority actions to reach these goals, informed by best available science, and substantial stakeholder input.

We thank PSE for its work in developing CEIP in compliance with the Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA). We believe there are opportunities to strengthen the CEIP and accelerate the transition to clean energy supplies, which creates jobs, and protects the health and well-being of King County residents through cleaner air and lower carbon emissions. We raise these issues for consideration:

Accelerate the transition: We encourage PSE to move more rapidly to transition to clean energy supplies. PSE should increase the development or acquisition of clean energy generation

resources in early years in order to rapidly decrease its reliance on fossil fuel generation. All options for renewables, efficiency, storage, demand response, and grid modernization to meet supply needs should be exhausted before sourcing additional fossil fuel generation.

Build for long term success: PSE should ensure that the CEIP sets a foundation for successful compliance with the Clean Energy Transformation Act. In the 2021 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), PSE proposes to develop 966MW of peaking capacity outside of the 2025 CEIP planning horizon, using biodiesel, although the IRP contains no analysis of the availability of biofuels supplies. For future CEIPs that include this resource, we suggest a fuller analysis that demonstrates that PSE can secure a consistent high-quality supply of biodiesel that enables it to operate these plants without reliance on natural gas. Without consistent supplies of biodiesel, the capacity will likely be met with natural gas – in direct opposition to the goals of the Clean Energy Transformation Act and King County’s shared emission reduction targets. PSE also needs to ensure that it is planning for the significant amounts of renewable capacity it needs in future years to comply with CETA. The 2021 IRP models a renewable capacity gap of 7.6 million MWh in 2030, underscoring the urgency with which PSE needs to develop and acquire renewable resources.

The K4C has a long history of collaboration with PSE. We have partnered with PSE on programs and initiatives that have increased investment in energy efficiency for our local government operations and for residents and businesses in our jurisdictions and subscribed to PSE’s Green Direct program to power facilities with new renewable resources in Washington State.

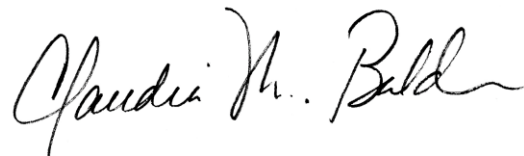
A resource plan that continues to rely on fossil-fuel based electricity generation is economically risky for ratepayers, as tightening supplies and increasing volatility of wholesale market prices could have serious financial impacts to budgets already strained by the impacts of the pandemic. We emphasize the need for additional renewable capacity that will reduce market reliance, while advancing commitments to reducing greenhouse emissions. We have an interest in the health, well-being, and economic opportunities of our residents, particularly those communities disproportionately impacted by climate change. We will continue to collaborate with the UTC and utilities achieve the CETA goals for clean energy supplies by 2045.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Dow Constantine
King County Executive



Claudia Balducci
Chair, King County Council

Kristiana de Leon

Kristiana de Leon
Councilmember, City of Black Diamond

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large, stylized 'M' and 'P' that are connected, with the name 'Pauly' written in a cursive script.

Mary Lou Pauly
Mayor, City of Issaquah

A handwritten signature in blue ink, with the first name 'Penny' written in a large, flowing cursive script, followed by the last name 'Sweet' in a similar but slightly more compact style.

Penny Sweet
Mayor, City of Kirkland

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large, stylized 'S' that loops around, followed by the name 'Salim Nice' written in a cursive script.

Salim Nice
Mayor, City of Mercer Island

A handwritten signature in black ink, with the first name 'Angela' written in a large, flowing cursive script, followed by the last name 'Birney' in a similar but slightly more compact style.

Angela Birney
Mayor, City of Redmond

Exhibit B



March 10, 2022

Washington State Building Code Council
Andrew Klein, Council Chair
1500 Jefferson Ave. SE
PO Box 41449
Olympia, WA 98504-1449

RE: 2021 Washington State Commercial Energy Code

Dear Chair Klein and the Washington State Building Code Council:

As elected officials and government representatives representing more than 2.25 million Washington residents in King County and seven cities, we offer our support for the proposed 2021 Washington State Commercial Energy Code. We support these code changes as they provide energy savings through reasonable and practical measures, support the growth of family wage careers in the clean energy economy, and make progress toward local and state climate goals. Each step forward in efficiency is important to achieving the statewide goal of net zero ready buildings by 2031.

Confronting climate change and accelerating the transition to a clean energy economy are top priorities for the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C), a coalition of local governments – King County, 18 cities and the Port of Seattle – working to advance a shared goal of reducing carbon emissions 50 percent by 2030. The jurisdictions in the K4C represent 80 percent of King County's 2.25 million residents, which is nearly 25 percent of the state's population.

The built environment is one of the largest sources of carbon emissions in King County. In a 2017 inventory, emissions from the commercial built environment were 22 percent of all emissions. Strong energy codes are essential to reaching the K4C's carbon emission reduction target and continue us forward on the statewide goal to reduce energy use in the built environment 70 percent from 2006 levels by 2031.

Passage of strong codes at the state level will accelerate the decarbonization of the built environment, a key component to reach our climate goals. Several partners in the K4C have already taken action to develop strong codes in their jurisdictions. The cities of Seattle and Shoreline have passed commercial code ordinances that reflect a commitment to the K4C and state climate goals by requiring highly efficient building design, which reduces resource use and thus operating costs for owners or tenants and incenting the use of electric systems for space and water heating. King County has proposed similar code to be contemplated by the King County Council in early 2022.

We would like to emphasize our support for these proposed elements that advance K4C goals to reduce emissions in the commercial and multi-family built environment:

- 21-GP1-103: Reduces emissions by requiring heat pump space heating in lieu of fossil fuel or space heating, with exceptions allowed.
- 21-GP1-136: Reduces emissions by requiring heat pump water heating in lieu of fossil fuel or electric resistance water heating.
- 21-GP1-146: Promotes higher performance buildings by increasing the number of efficiency credits required.
- 21-GP1-179: Requires an electrical outlet at gas equipment installations in multifamily units, making the switch to electric appliances easier.
- 21-GP1-178: Saves energy by installing advanced lighting controls for open offices greater than 5,000 square feet.
- 21-GP1-115: Requires multi-family buildings to build “solar ready,” reducing costs associated with future solar installations.
- 21-GP1-78: Increases zero-carbon energy generation by requiring on-site renewable energy systems for commercial buildings over 10,000 square feet.
- 21-GP1-208: Modernize Washington State’s code to allow concrete masonry unit walls to qualify for insulation requirements.
- WAC 51-50-4700, Appendix P: Reduce lifecycle and embodied emissions of buildings through increased reuse and recycling of materials.

In addition, we provide a suggestion for the following provision that addresses emissions in transportation sector:

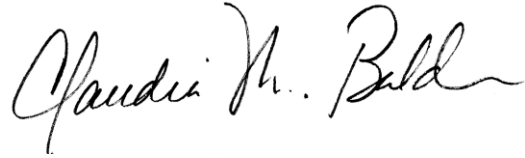
- WAC 51-50-0429, Section 429: We do not support the proposal as currently written, as more stakeholder participation is needed in the development of EV charging requirements. We support the formation of a special EV Charging Infrastructure Technical Advisory Group by the SBCC to develop 2021 IBC requirements around equitable transportation electrification by requiring a certain amount of installed EV chargers, EV-ready, and EV-capable parking spaces in commercial and multi-family buildings.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment. We support the proposed revisions to the Commercial Energy Code, and we urge the Council to approve this code.

Sincerely,



Dow Constantine
King County Executive



Claudia Balducci
Chair, King County Council



Sofia Aragon
Mayor, City of Burien



Mary Lou Pauly
Mayor, City of Issaquah



Penny Sweet
Mayor, City of Kirkland



Salim Nice
Mayor, City of Mercer Island



Angela Birney
Mayor, City of Redmond



Jessyn Farrell
Director, City of Seattle
Office of Sustainability and Environment



Nathan Torgelson
Director, City of Seattle
Department of Construction & Inspections



Keith Scully
Mayor, City of Shoreline