

CETA: A Brief Overview

CETA requires the state's electric utilities to fully transition to clean, renewable and non-emitting resources by 2045. Washington's investor-owned utilities (IOUs) must develop and implement plans.

The act sets the following mandatory targets:

- **2025** – All electric utilities must eliminate coal-fired generation serving Washington state customers.
- **2030** – All electric utilities must be greenhouse gas neutral—for example, remaining carbon emissions are offset by renewable energy, energy efficiency, carbon reduction project investments, or payments funding low-income assistance.
- **2045** – All electric utilities must generate 100% of their power from renewable or zero-carbon resources.

RCW 19.405.060 Clean energy implementation plan-Compliance Criteria-Incremental cost of compliance. (2)(a) By January 1, 2022, and every four years thereafter, each consumer-owned utility must develop and submit to the department a four-year clean energy implementation plan for the standards established under RCW 19.405.040(1) and 19.405.050(1) that: (i) Proposes interim targets for meeting the standard under RCW 19.405.040(1) during the years prior to 2030 and between 2030 and 2045, as well as specific targets for energy efficiency, demand response, and renewable energy; (ii) Is informed by the consumer-owned utility's clean energy action plan developed under RCW 19.280.030(1) or other ten-year plan developed under RCW 19.280.030(5); (iii) Is consistent with subsection (4) of this section; and (iv) Identifies specific actions to be taken by the consumer-owned utility over the next four years, consistent with the utility's long-range resource plan and resource adequacy requirements, that demonstrate progress towards meeting the standards under RCW 19.405.040(1) and 19.405.050(1) and the interim targets proposed under (a)(i) of this subsection. The specific actions identified must be informed by the consumer-owned utility's historic performance under median water conditions and resource capability and by the consumer-owned utility's participation in centralized markets. In identifying specific actions in its clean energy implementation plan, the consumer-owned utility may also take into consideration any significant and unplanned loss or addition of load it experiences. (b) The governing body of the consumer-owned utility must, after a public meeting, adopt the consumer-owned utility's clean energy implementation plan. The clean energy implementation plan must be submitted to the department and made available to the public. The governing body may adopt more stringent targets than those proposed by the consumer-owned utility and periodically adjust or expedite timelines if it

can be demonstrated that such targets or timelines can be achieved in a manner consistent with the following: (i) Maintaining and protecting the safety, reliable operation, and balancing of the electric system; (ii) Planning to meet the standards at the lowest reasonable cost, considering risk; (iii) Ensuring that all customers are benefiting from the transition to clean energy: Through the equitable distribution of energy and nonenergy benefits and reduction of burdens to vulnerable populations and highly impacted communities; long-term and short-term public health and environmental benefits and reduction of costs and risks; and energy security and resiliency; and (iv) Ensuring that no customer or class of customers is unreasonably harmed by any resulting increases in the cost of utility-supplied electricity as may be necessary to comply with the standards. (3)(a) An investor-owned utility must be considered to be in compliance with the standards under RCW 19.405.040(1) and 19.405.050(1) if, over the four-year compliance period, the average annual incremental cost of meeting the standards or the interim targets established under subsection (1) of this section equals a two percent increase of the investor-owned utility's weather-adjusted sales revenue to customers for electric operations above the previous year, as reported by the investor-owned utility in its most recent commission basis report. All costs included in the determination of cost impact must be directly attributable to actions necessary to comply with the requirements of RCW 19.405.040 and 19.405.050. (b) If an investor-owned utility relies on (a) of this subsection as a basis for compliance with the standard under RCW 19.405.040(1), then it must.

demonstrate that it has maximized investments in renewable resources and non-emitting electric generation prior to using alternative compliance options allowed under RCW 19.405.040(1)(b). (4)(a) A consumer-owned utility must be considered to be in compliance with the standards under RCW 19.405.040(1) and 19.405.050(1) if, over the four-year compliance period, the average annual incremental cost of meeting the standards or the interim targets established under subsection (2) of this section meets or exceeds a two percent increase of the consumer-owned utility's retail revenue requirement above the previous year. All costs included in the determination of cost impact must be directly attributable to actions necessary to comply with the requirements of RCW 19.405.040 and 19.405.050. (b) If a consumer-owned utility relies on (a) of this subsection as a basis for compliance with the standard under RCW 19.405.040(1), and it has not met eighty percent of its annual retail electric load using electricity from renewable resources and non-emitting electric generation, then it must demonstrate that it has maximized investments in renewable resources and non-emitting electric generation prior to using alternative compliance options allowed under RCW 19.405.040(1)(b). (5) The commission, for investor-owned utilities, and the department, for consumer-owned utilities, must adopt rules establishing the methodology for calculating the incremental cost of compliance under this section, as compared to the cost of an alternative lowest reasonable cost portfolio of investments that are reasonably available. WAC 194-40-200 Clean energy implementation plan. (1) Specific actions. Each utility must identify in each CEIP the specific actions the utility will take during the next interim

performance period or GHG neutral compliance period to demonstrate progress toward meeting the standards under RCW 19.405.040(1) and 19.405.050(1) and the interim targets under subsection (2) of this section and the specific targets under subsection (3) of this section. Specific actions must be consistent with the requirements of RCW 19.405.060 (2)(a)(iv).

(2) Interim target. The CEIP must establish an interim target for the percentage of retail load to be served using renewable and non-emitting resources during the period covered by the CEIP. The interim target must demonstrate progress toward meeting the standards under RCW 19.405.040(1) and 19.405.050(1), if the utility is not already meeting the relevant standard.

(3) Specific targets. The CEIP must establish specific targets, for the interim performance period or GHG neutral compliance period covered by the CEIP, for each of the following categories of resources:

(a) Energy efficiency. (i) The CEIP must establish a target for the amount, expressed in megawatt-hours of first-year savings, of energy efficiency resources expected to be acquired during the period. The energy efficiency target must comply with WAC 194-40-330(1). (ii) A utility may update its CEIP to incorporate a revised energy efficiency target to match a biennial conservation target established by the utility under RCW 19.285.040 (l)(b) and WAC 194-37-070.

(b) Demand response resources. The CEIP must specify a target for the amount, expressed in megawatts, of demand response resources to be acquired during the period. The demand response target must comply with WAC 194-40-330(2).

(c) Renewable energy. The utility's target for renewable energy must identify the quantity in megawatt-hours of renewable electricity to be used in the period.

(4) Specific actions to ensure equitable transition. To meet the requirements of RCW 19.405.040(8), the CEIP must, at a minimum:

(a) Identify each highly impacted community, as defined in RCW 19.405.020(23), and its designation as either: (i) A community designated by the department of health based on cumulative impact analyses; or (ii) A community located in census tracts that are at least partially on Indian country.

(b) Identify vulnerable populations based on the adverse socioeconomic factors and sensitivity factors developed through a public process established by the utility and describe and explain any changes from the utility's previous CEIP, if any;

(c) Report the forecasted distribution of energy and nonenergy costs and benefits for the utility's portfolio of specific actions, including impacts resulting from achievement of the specific targets established under subsection (3) of this section. The report must:

(i) Include one or more indicators applicable to the utility's service area and associated with energy benefits, nonenergy benefits, reduction of burdens, public health, environment, reduction in cost, energy security, or resiliency developed through a public process as part of the utility's long-term planning, for the provisions in RCW 19.405.040(8);

(ii) Identify the expected effect of specific actions on highly impacted communities and vulnerable populations and the general location, if applicable, timing, and estimated cost of each specific action. If applicable, identify whether any resource will be located in highly impacted communities or will be governed by, serve, or otherwise benefit highly impacted communities or vulnerable populations in part or in whole; and

(iii) Describe how the specific actions in the CEIP are consistent with, and informed by, the utility's longer-term strategies based on the analysis in RCW 19.280.030 (l)(k) and clean energy action plan in RCW 19.280.030(1)(1) from its most recent integrated resource plan, if applicable.

(d) Describe how the utility intends to reduce risks to highly impacted communities and vulnerable populations associated with the transition to clean energy.

(5) Use of alternative compliance options. The CEIP must identify any planned use during the period of alternative compliance options, as provided for in RCW 19.405.040 (l)(b).

(6) The CEIP must be consistent with the most recent integrated resource plan or resource plan, as applicable, prepared by the utility under RCW 19.280.030.

(7) The CEIP must be consistent with the utility's clean energy action plan developed under RCW 19.280.030(1) or other ten-year plan developed under RCW 19.280.030(5).

(8) The CEIP must

identify the resource adequacy standard and measurement metrics adopted by the utility under WAC 194-40-210 and used in establishing the targets in its CEIP. (9) If the utility intends to comply using the two percent incremental cost approach specified in WAC 194-40-230, the CEIP must include the information required in WAC 194-40-230(3) and, if applicable, the demonstration required in WAC 194-40-350(2). (10) Any utility that is not subject to RCW 19.280.030(1) may meet the requirements of this section through a simplified reporting form provided by commerce.

A small utility is a utility that is not required by RCW 19.280.030(1) to prepare an integrated resource plan.

The City of Chewelah purchases 100% of its power from BPA, Bonneville Power Administration.