

**Jeffery C. Allen**  
Chair  
Idaho

**Ed Schriever**  
Idaho

**Doug Grob**  
Montana

**Mike Milburn**  
Montana



## Northwest Power and Conservation Council

**KC Golden**  
Vice Chair  
Washington

**Thomas L (Les) Purce**  
Washington

**Ginny Burdick**  
Oregon

**Louie Pitt, Jr.**  
Oregon

May 7, 2024

### DECISION MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Council members

**FROM:** Daniel Hua and Christian Douglass

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Climate and Weather Advisory Committee Charter

#### PROPOSED ACTION:

Authorize the creation of, and approve a two-year charter for, a Climate and Weather Advisory Committee.

#### SIGNIFICANCE:

A charter is required to form a Climate and Weather Advisory Committee (CWAC), the formation of which was proposed at the March 13, 2024 Council meeting. The CWAC will assist the Council in the development and amendment of its regional Power Plan by advising on the selection of appropriate types of climate model data, and the transformations of the data to become inputs into the various Council simulation models and analyses.

The proposed CWAC charter attached reflects the scope outlined in, and comments received from the public through, the proposed charter released on March 13, 2024.

#### BUDGETARY / ECONOMIC IMPACTS

The estimated annual operating costs, including expense reimbursement, meeting, and contract support, are less than five-thousand dollars (\$5,000) per year, and twenty staff days to organize, prepare, facilitate, and attend committee meetings.

#### BACKGROUND

The Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act, P.L. 96-501, 16 U.S.C. §839 et seq. (Act), in Section 4(d)(1), requires the Pacific Northwest Electric Power and Conservation Planning Council (Council) to develop “a regional conservation

and electric power plan.” The plan is to include a twenty-year forecast of electricity demand and a resource plan for the development of conservation and generation to meet or reduce the Administrator’s obligations mindful of a variety of considerations. In the Council’s 2021 Power Plan, the Council used climate change informed data to develop its load forecasts, hydro profiles, and wind profiles. Since development of the plan, the Council has continued to see the importance of understanding the impacts of weather on loads and resources, particularly during extreme weather events. As the Council prepares for its next power plan, the power division staff is seeking to expand its climate and weather analysis to inform other resource profiles (as appropriate) and broaden the representation of climate change data informed impacts in the modeling. The CWAC will advise the Council on selecting appropriate sets of climate and weather data as inputs in the development of the Power Plan and guide other analysis related to climate change and weather.

Consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and the General Service Administration FACA guidelines, the Council released a call for comments on the proposed committee as a means of ensuring proper public notification. The Council received two comments, both in support of the committee. Staff will walk through these comments at the Council meeting.

## **ATTACHMENT**

Climate and Weather Advisory Committee Charter

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May 2024

### CHARTER OF THE CLIMATE AND WEATHER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. **Official Designation:** This advisory committee will be known as the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Climate and Weather Advisory Committee.
2. **Background:** The Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act, P.L. 96-501, 16 U.S.C. §839 et seq. (Act), in Section 4(d)(1), requires the Pacific Northwest Electric Power and Conservation Planning Council (Council) to develop “a regional conservation and electric power plan.” The plan is to include a twenty-year forecast of electricity demand and a resource plan for the development of conservation and generation to meet the demand at the lowest cost, consistent with adequate and reliable electricity service. The Climate and Weather Advisory Committee will assist the Council in the development and amendment of its regional Power Plan (the Plan) by advising on the selection of appropriate types of climate model data, and the transformations (if necessary) of the data, to become inputs into the various Council simulation models and analyses.

Specifically, future climate and weather condition assumptions affect nearly every aspect of Power Plan modeling and analysis. Future projected temperatures and precipitation affect river flows and therefore the modeling of the hydro system; projected wind speeds and patterns impact the availability and capacity of wind generation; load forecasts are driven, in part, by future projected temperatures; and the energy and demand impacts of many energy efficiency and demand response measures are dependent on weather conditions.

This advisory committee is established as part of a network of advisory committees satisfying the Council's obligation under the Act to establish a Scientific and Statistical Advisory Committee. Section 4(c)(11). Under Section 4(a)(4) of the Act, the terms of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. Appendix I, sections 1-14, apply “to the extent appropriate” to the Council's advisory committees.

3. **Objectives and Scope of Activity:** The Climate and Weather Advisory Committee will advise the Council regarding climate and weather data that have significance to the development and implementation of the Power Plan. Activities of the committee will

include:

- (A) Within the Pacific Northwest Region:
- Reviewing climate model streamflow and temperature data, such as that from the River Management Joint Operation Committee (RMJOC) climate model data set;
  - Selecting a set of climate model wind and solar data that are as consistent as possible with the selected streamflow and temperature data relative to the Council's power planning needs and transforming the data for use in power system models;
  - Selecting and transforming relevant climate model data for use in modeling energy efficiency measures, demand response interventions, and other distributed energy resources;
  - Reviewing recent extreme weather events, assessing their representation in the climate data, and, if necessary, providing recommendations on how to ensure sufficient representation of extreme weather in the Plan;
  - Assessing and providing recommendations on other future climate- and weather-related topics as necessary in support of the Plan.
- (B) Within the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) region but outside of the Pacific Northwest region:
- Selecting climate model data for weather-dependent generation resources, such as hydro, wind, and solar generation, as inputs in the Council's power system models.
4. Official to Whom the Advisory Committee Reports: The Climate and Weather Advisory Committee will report to the Council's Power Planning Division Director.
  5. Authority of the Advisory Committee: The Climate and Weather Advisory Committee will serve in an advisory capacity only. Neither the Committee nor its members are authorized to make statements or commitments on behalf of the Council. Non-staff members of the Committee are not Council employees.
  6. Estimated Annual Operating Costs: The estimated annual operating costs, including expense reimbursement, meeting, and contract support, is approximately five-thousand dollars (\$5,000) per year for travel, and twenty staff days to organize, prepare, facilitate, and attend committee meetings.
  7. Advisory Committee Members: Every two years, the chair of the advisory committee, in consultation with the Director of the Power Planning Division will solicit technical experts to participate on the advisory committee from a wide range of regional stakeholders. The Council's Executive Director shall approve the participants and, in doing so, shall ensure that membership of the advisory committee is fairly balanced in terms of the points of view represented and the functions to be performed by the advisory committee.

Committee members shall be selected based primarily on their technical expertise on and experience of climate science and climate impacts on power systems. Members may include representatives from electric and gas public and private utilities, state energy offices, Bonneville Power Administration, the Energy Trust of Oregon, non-utility program implementers, state utility regulatory offices, trade associations, energy efficiency industry firms, public interest groups, regional tribes, universities, national laboratories, and the general public. All committee members serve at the pleasure of the Council.

If a member is unable to complete the two-year term, the organization the member is affiliated with may designate another person to serve for the remainder of the term. All replacement members must be approved by the Director of the Power Planning Division.

If a request for membership is submitted during the two-year term by a person or organization that is not currently represented on the Committee, that request for membership must be approved by the Executive Director, with input from the Director of the Power Planning Division. The Council will be timely notified of the updated membership.

If a member is unable to attend a particular committee meeting, that member may designate another person from his/her organization to attend in his/her place. Members may also participate in committee meetings remotely via webinar or telephone.

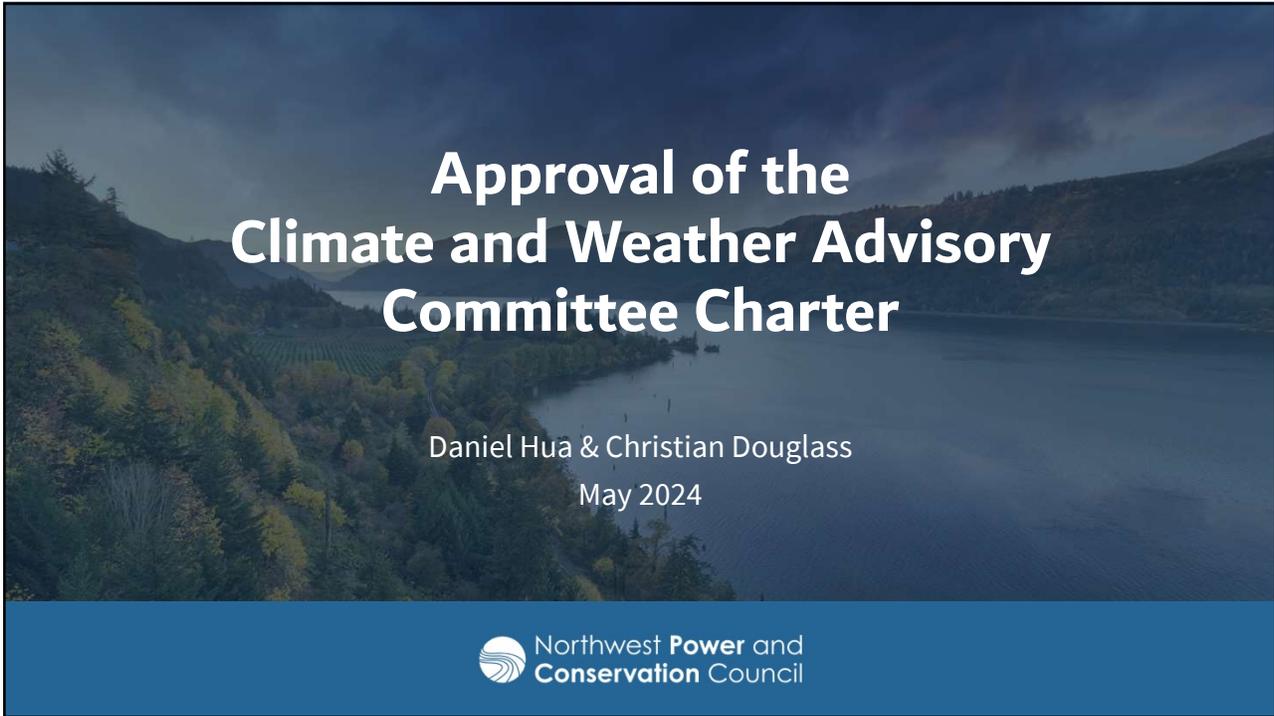
8. Advisory Committee Management Officer: The Advisory Committee Management Officer (Management Officer) for the Climate and Weather Advisory Committee will be the Director of the Council's Power Planning Division.
9. Chair:
  - (A) The Chair of the Climate and Weather Advisory Committee will be selected by the Executive Director of the Council.
  - (B) The Chair may be called upon to report to the Executive Director of the Council on appropriate matters, including the Advisory Committee's progress on the tasks described in Part 3 of this Charter.
  - (C) The duties of the Chair will include presiding over Climate and Weather Advisory Committee meetings, setting agendas for such meetings, ensuring that detailed minutes of such meetings are prepared and submitted to the Executive Director of the Council in a timely manner, and maintaining communication between the Committee and the Council's staff.
  - (D) The Chair will certify detailed minutes of meetings of the Climate and Weather Advisory Committee. The minutes should include time, date, and place of meetings; a list of persons present at the meeting, including advisory committee members, staff, Council members, and members of the public who presented oral or written statements; an accurate summary of matters discussed, conclusions reached, and actions taken; and copies of written statements made by members of the public, reports received, issued or approved by the Committee. Minutes of meetings will be prepared and released within ten days of the meeting, unless the Management Officer grants an extension. The Chair will post the minutes of each meeting on the Committee meeting agenda webpage.

- (E) Subcommittees or small workgroups of the Climate and Weather Advisory Committee may be established by the Chair of the Committee to undertake particular aspects of the Committee's work.
  - (F) Methods for organizing the work and procedures of the Committee must follow the scope of responsibilities assigned to the Committee by the Council. Council staff will make arrangements for Committee meetings and provide general support services.
10. Vice-Chair:
- (A) A Vice-Chair of the Climate and Weather Advisory Committee may be appointed from Council staff by the Council's Executive Director.
  - (B) The Vice-Chair will perform the duties of the Chair of the Committee in the absence of the Chair, and such other duties as the Chair of the Committee may assign.
11. Rules: The advisory committee rules approved and adopted by the Council on March 17, 1982, as amended from time to time, will apply to the Climate and Weather Advisory Committee to the extent such matters are not covered in this Charter.
12. Estimated Frequency of Committee Meetings: The Chair of the Climate and Weather Advisory Committee, after consultation with the Management Officer, or his or her designee, will call meetings as necessary. All meetings will be open to the public, unless closed pursuant to 5 U.S.C. §552b(c). Timely notice of meetings, including agendas, will be made. Interested persons may attend Committee meetings and appear before or file statements with the Committee pursuant to the Council's advisory committee rules and subject to such other rules as the Council may prescribe.
13. Reimbursement of Expenses: For purposes of attending Committee meetings, the Council may reimburse members of the Climate and Weather Advisory Committee for travel, including per diem in lieu of subsistence in accordance with the Council's travel policy for contractors and as authorized by 5 U.S.C. §5703. The Executive Director shall determine who may receive reimbursement.
14. Duration: The Climate and Weather Advisory Committee will terminate two years from the date this Charter is adopted, unless renewed in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

This Charter for the Climate and Weather Advisory Committee was approved and adopted at a duly noticed meeting of the Northwest Power and Conservation Council on **May 15, 2024**.

**Chair**

Date Filed: **May 2024**



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## Reminder on the Objectives of the Climate and Weather Advisory Committee

- Advise the Council regarding climate and weather data that have significance to the development and implementation of the Power Plan

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|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Hydro-system modeling</li> <li> Wind generation modeling</li> <li> Solar generation modeling</li> <li> Energy efficiency (EE) and demand response (DR) modeling</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Load forecasting</li> <li> System adequacy modeling</li> <li> System expansion modeling</li> </ul> |
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## Processes of the Advisory Committee Charter

- A proposal for the Climate and Weather Advisory Committee was released for a 30-day public comment after the March 2024 Council meeting
- The Council received two comments:
  - *Analyze the impacts of extreme weather events on the Northwest power system*
  - *Identify that climate science is a specific area of expertise that is of interest for committee membership*
- Extreme events were already in scope, but we did clarify the charter on the expertise of climate science
- Seeking the Council's approval of the charter for the Climate and Weather Advisory Committee

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